



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks during a campaign stop at River Valley Community College in Claremont, New Hampshire. (AP Photo/Jim Cole)

Clinton Relents in E-Mail Inquiry Amid Campaign

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton has agreed to relinquish the personal email server she used while serving as the top U.S. diplomat, as part of an investigation into an issue that threatens to remain a significant distraction for her presidential campaign.

Clinton, former secretary of state and now the leading Democratic presidential candidate, has tried to focus her campaign on issues like education and economic recovery and her policy prescriptions aimed at middle class voters. Instead she must answer constant questions surrounding her decision to run her State Department email correspondence through an unsecured system set up at her suburban New York home.

Polls still show Clinton with a commanding lead over her Democratic presidential rivals. But the issue of her use of a personal email server has given her Republican opponents an opportunity to rekindle questions about whether she is trustworthy and they hope that this controversy will weaken her as a potential candidate ahead of the November 2016 election.

An Associated Press-GfK poll last month showed that standing is falling among Democrats, and voters view her as less decisive and inspiring than when she launched her presidential campaign just three months ago. Just 39 percent of all Americans have a favorable view of Clinton, compared to nearly half who say they have a negative opinion of her. That's an 8-point increase in her unfavorable rating from an AP-GfK poll conducted at the end of April.

Clinton is also facing the unexpected popularity of Sen. Bernie Sanders, a self-described socialist who is also vying for the Democratic nomination and remains a longshot for the White House, but who has shown a steadily improving performance in polls and attracted massive crowds to his rallies.

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Jimmy Carter Says He Has Cancer, Revealed By Recent Surgery

Attacks surge as Iran's FM visits Syria

ALBERT AJI
ZEINA KARAM
Associated Press

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — Iran's foreign minister, who negotiated his country's nuclear deal with world powers, discussed ways of ending Syria's civil war with President Bashar Assad in Damascus on Wednesday, as attacks surged around the Syrian capital, killing

Zarif as saying after talks with Assad that their discussion focused on ways of ending the Syrian crisis.

"It is time for the other players and our neighbors to take note of reality, listen to the demands of the Syrian people and work for combatting extremism and terrorism," Zarif said, referring to Gulf Arab countries that back Syrian rebels.

for achieving some kind of breakthrough on Syria.

The deal has opened diplomatic channels between Saudi Arabia and Assad's Iran-backed government, although the Saudi foreign minister, Adel al-Jubeir, denied on Tuesday his country was wavering in its position that Assad should have no future role in Syria.

The rebel shelling, which



In this photo released by the Syrian official news agency SANA, Syrian President Bashar Assad, right, meets with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif in Damascus, Syria, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015. Zarif, who negotiated his country's nuclear deal with world powers, discussed ways of ending Syria's civil war with President Assad in Damascus on Wednesday as attacks surged around the Syrian capital, killing tens of people and wounding dozens.

(SANA via AP)

at least 36 people and wounding dozens.

Stepped-up rebel shelling and government airstrikes came just a few hours before Mohammad Javad Zarif arrived in Damascus, where he discussed a four-point proposal Iran wants to offer to the United Nations as a way out of Syria's grinding conflict.

That plan, according to a Lebanese politician familiar with the proposal, includes a cease-fire and a power-sharing government that would keep Assad in the picture, at least for now, pending internationally supervised elections. The politician, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to divulge details of the plan, said it shows the Iranians were "not ready" to withdraw their support for Assad.

Syrian state-run TV quoted

According to Syria's state news agency, SANA, Zarif stressed that any solution for the crisis should be "far from any foreign intervention and in a way that preserves the country's territorial unity" and independence. He also reiterated Iran's determination to continue supporting Syria.

But the day's surge in violence underscored the improbability of efforts to bring about a truce anytime soon in a conflict that has killed more than 250,000 people, displaced half the country's population since March 2011 and allowed the Islamic State group to flourish. Assad has lost control over more than half the country by some estimates — much of it now ruled by warlords and militias. Still, Tehran's landmark nuclear deal with world powers is widely seen as providing an opportunity

apparently was meant to send a message that Zarif was not welcome in Syria, began around the morning rush hour in Damascus. More than 50 shells struck the city, including in the upper-class neighborhoods of Abu Rummaneh, Baramkeh and Qasaa.

Five people were killed and dozens were wounded, according to Syrian state TV and the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. "We hid for two hours in the bathroom," said a resident over the telephone from Qasaa, who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals. "My children woke up terrified. Our windows were shattered and so was my car's windshield."

Shortly afterward, government warplanes unleashed a wave of airstrikes on several rebel-held suburbs of the capital. □

IS affiliate in Egypt releases image of slain Croat captive

BRIAN ROHAN
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — A Croatian hostage abducted in Egypt by Islamic State militants has been beheaded, according to a gruesome image circulated Wednesday online — a killing that, if confirmed, would be the first of its kind involving a foreign captive in the country, undermining government efforts to project stability and buttress an economic turnaround.

The killing of the 30-year-old oil and gas sector surveyor would deal a blow to President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi's attempts to burnish the country's reputation a week after he unveiled a new extension of the Suez canal in a much-hyped ceremony attended by international dignitaries.

It will also likely rattle companies with expatriate workers in Egypt and cast a cloud over hopes of boosting international investment and tourism following years of unrest in the wake of Egypt's Arab Spring uprising.

The still photo, circulated by IS supporters on social media, appeared to show the body of Tomislav Salopek,

a married father of two, wearing a beige jumpsuit like the one he wore in a previous video. A black flag used by the Islamic State group and a knife were planted in the sand next to his body.

A caption in Arabic said Salopek was killed "for his country's participation in the war against the Islamic State," and came after a deadline had passed for Egypt to meet his captors' demands to free jailed Islamist women.

The picture contained an inset of two Egyptian newspaper reports, one declaring Croatia's support for Egypt's war against terrorism and another noting Croatia's backing of the Kurds, who have been battling the IS group in Syria and Iraq.

Croatian troops fought in the U.S.-led coalition in Iraq and still serve in the NATO-led force in Afghanistan.

In a televised address to the nation, Croatian Prime Minister Zoran Milanovic said authorities there could not confirm the killing with certainty.

"We cannot 100 percent confirm it is true, but what we see looks horrific. A confirmation may not come for several days," he said, adding that the search for Salopek will continue as long as there is a glimmer of hope.

In remarks posted on the Egyptian Foreign Ministry's Facebook page, Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry said authorities were working to verify the authenticity of the claim.

In Salopek's hometown, anguished residents refused to believe the reports of his beheading.

"No, no, no," Goran Blazanovic kept repeating as he sat in a cafe in Vrpolje, Croatia, with other grim-looking friends and family of the Croat captive, who kept searching their smartphones for signs that would give them hope that the reports were mistaken.

"Nothing is proven," Blazanovic insisted. "We hope that he will come back home to his wife and children."

Al-Azhar, the Sunni Muslim world's prestigious religious institute, condemned the apparent killing, calling it a "demonic act of which all religions and human traditions are innocent."

"The statement also said Islamic law stipulates that it is forbidden to shed the blood of foreigners.

Exiled members of the Muslim Brotherhood, which Egypt brands a terrorist organization, said the beheading was a sign the government had failed to curb the rise of extremism.

Concerns were also raised about the economic impact on the country. □



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US F-16 fighters fly first missions from Turkey

ROBERT BURNS

AP National Security

WASHINGTON (AP) —

The U.S. on Wednesday launched its first airstrikes by Turkey-based F-16 fighter jets against Islamic State targets in Syria, marking a limited escalation of a yearlong air campaign that critics have called excessively cautious.

In a brief statement the Pentagon announced the F-16 strikes were launched from Incirlik air base in southern Turkey but provided no details on the number or types of targets struck. It did not say how many of the six F-16s now based at Incirlik were used in the initial strikes.

Earlier this month the U.S. began flying armed drones from Incirlik, but the F-16 flights add a new dimension to the air campaign, in part because of the added risk to pilots who might encounter Syrian or other air defenses. Pentagon officials have said the main advantage of using Incirlik is its proximity to Islamic State targets in northern Syria, although a senior U.S. defense official said Wednesday that the F-16s may also be used on missions over Iraq. The official was not authorized to discuss F-16 mission details publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Most U.S. aerial combat missions over Iraq and Syria are being flown from more distant air bases in

Qatar and elsewhere in the Persian Gulf region, although the U.S. also is flying F-16s from Muwaffaq

of combat search-and-rescue forces in the region, the senior defense official said. The official indicated

recently because the U.S. asked it to wait so that the two countries can coordinate efforts. The official

air operations against the Islamic State, in part by shortening the flying distance to targets in northern Syria.

More broadly, the escalation is important for bringing Turkey more directly in the conflict, Harmer said.

"Turkey is coming off the sideline," Harmer said. "More than anybody else in the region, Turkey did not want to tangle with ISIS," he added, using an alternative acronym for the Islamic State group. "All that nastiness that ISIS can do could be turned against Turkey in very short order." The Turkish situation is especially touchy in political terms, in part because Turkey is a NATO ally with a different perspective on the Islamic State problem. Whereas the U.S. is focused on fighting the Islamic State militants and has partnered with Syrian Kurds to that end, Turkey's main priority is curtailing growing Kurdish power along its southern border with Syria.

The Turks worry that Kurdish gains in Iraq and in Syria will encourage a revival of a Kurdish armed insurgency in Turkey in pursuit of an independent state. The PKK, a Kurdish terror group, killed two Turkish police officers and the Turks have retaliated, bombing their positions. Other Kurdish fighters have been effective against the Islamic State. □



In this image provided by the U.S. Air Force, an F-16 Fighting Falcon takes off from Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, as the U.S. on Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015, launched its first airstrikes by Turkey-based F-16 fighter jets against Islamic State targets in Syria, marking a limited escalation of a yearlong air campaign that critics have called excessively cautious.

(Krystal Ardrey/U.S. Air Force via AP)

Salti air base in Jordan. The official said the Incirlik-based F-16s are equipped with surveillance and reconnaissance equipment in addition to weapons, and thus can be used to verify targeting information that may be provided by local Syrians or Iraqis cooperating with the U.S. A total of six F-16s are operating from Incirlik; they are from the 31st Fighter Wing based at Aviano, Italy.

With the threat of Syrian air defenses in mind, the U.S. military is considering how to reconfigure its network

those forces are deemed sufficient for the moment but might change. Other officials have said the U.S. also is considering placing refueling aircraft at Incirlik in support of the F-16 mission.

After months of negotiations between Washington and Ankara, the Turkish government agreed in late July to permit the U.S. to station aircraft at Incirlik in southern Turkey.

A Foreign Ministry official in Ankara said Wednesday that Turkey has not carried out its own airstrikes against the Islamic State

asked not to be named because of the sensitivity of the issue.

The senior U.S. defense official in Washington said the two governments are working on a memorandum of understanding that would set the terms under which Turkish warplanes would be integrated into the U.S.-led air campaign. Christopher Harmer, a senior naval analyst at the Institute for the Study of War and a retired Navy commander, said the deployment of six F-16s to Turkey provides only a marginal improvement to U.S.

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Jimmy Carter says he has cancer, revealed by recent surgery

KATHLEEN FOODY

Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Former President Jimmy Carter announced he has been diagnosed with cancer in a brief statement issued Wednesday.

The statement from the Carter Center makes clear that Carter's cancer is widely spread, but not where it originated, or even if that is known at this point. The liver is often a place where cancer spreads and less commonly is the primary source of it. It said further information will be provided when more facts are known, "possibly next week."

"Recent liver surgery revealed that I have cancer that now is in other parts of my body," Carter said in the statement. "I will be re-arranging my schedule as necessary so I can undergo treatment by physicians at Emory Healthcare."

Carter, 90, announced on Aug. 3 that he had surgery to remove a small mass from his liver.

Carter was the nation's 39th president, defeating Gerald Ford in 1976 with a



In this Thursday, Nov. 20, 2014 photo, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter speaks during a forum in Boston. On Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015, Carter announced he has cancer and will undergo treatment at an Atlanta hospital. (AP Photo/Elise Amendola)

pledge to always be honest. A number of foreign policy conflicts doomed his bid for a second term, and Carter lost to Ronald Reagan in a landslide. After leaving the White House, he founded the center in Atlanta in 1982 to promote health care, democracy and other issues

globally, often with wife Rosalynn by his side, and won a Nobel Peace Prize in 2002.

He has remained active for the center in recent years, making public appearances at its headquarters in Atlanta and traveling overseas, including a May election observation visit

to Guyana cut short when Carter developed a bad cold.

Good wishes poured in on social media after Carter's announcement, while President Barack Obama said he and first lady Michelle Obama wish Carter a fast and full recovery.

"Jimmy, you're as resilient

as they come, and along with the rest of America, we are rooting for you," Obama said in a statement. Carter also completed a book tour this summer to promote his latest work, "A Full Life."

Carter included his family's history of pancreatic cancer in that memoir, writing that his father, brother and two sisters all died of the disease and said the trend "concerned" the former president's doctors at Emory.

"The National Institutes of Health began to check all members of our family regularly, and my last remaining sibling, Gloria, sixty-four, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and died in 1990," Carter wrote. "There was no record of another American family having lost four members to this disease, and since that time I have had regular X-rays, CAT scans, or blood analyses, with hope of early detection if I develop the same symptoms."

Carter wrote that being the only nonsmoker in his family "may have been what led to my longer life." □

Top general: US should consider embedding troops in Iraq

LOLITA C. BALDOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — If Iraqi forces are not making good progress against Islamic State militants in the next several months, the U.S. should consider embedding American troops with the Iraqis, the Army's retiring top general said Wednesday.

Gen. Raymond Odierno, who retires as Army chief of staff on Friday, said the U.S. forces would not be directly involved in the fight.

"I believe that if we find in

the next several months that we're not making the progress that we have, we should probably absolutely consider embedding some soldiers with them, and see if that would make a difference," Odierno told reporters. "I think that's an option we should present to the president." Speaking during his final Pentagon news conference, Odierno hit a broad range of topics, and spoke at length about Iraq and his frustrations as a commander who spent three long tours there only

to see the country plunge again into chaos.

He discounted suggestions — including by Republican presidential contender Donald Trump — that the U.S. should take more aggressive military action in Iraq, saying the solution lies with political and economic reforms. He said the U.S. could probably go into Iraq with enough force to defeat the Islamic State, but the success would not last. "We'd probably be right back where we are today six months later," Odierno

said. "I absolutely believe that the region has to solve this problem. The U.S. cannot solve this problem for the region." Odierno is stepping down and will retire on Friday after 39 years in the military and four years at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. His service has been punctuated by three tours in Iraq that included leading the 4th Infantry Division during the 2003 invasion and serving as the top military commander in the country from 2008-2010.

"It is frustrating to look at what has happened inside of Iraq," said Odierno, recalling that in 2010 and 2011, the U.S. "thought we had it in a place that was really headed in the right direction." He said violence was down, the economy was growing and the political situation was stable.

"As it turns out, they weren't prepared to handle it," he said. "The political factions just simply weren't able to work together, and based on that, people became frustrated." □



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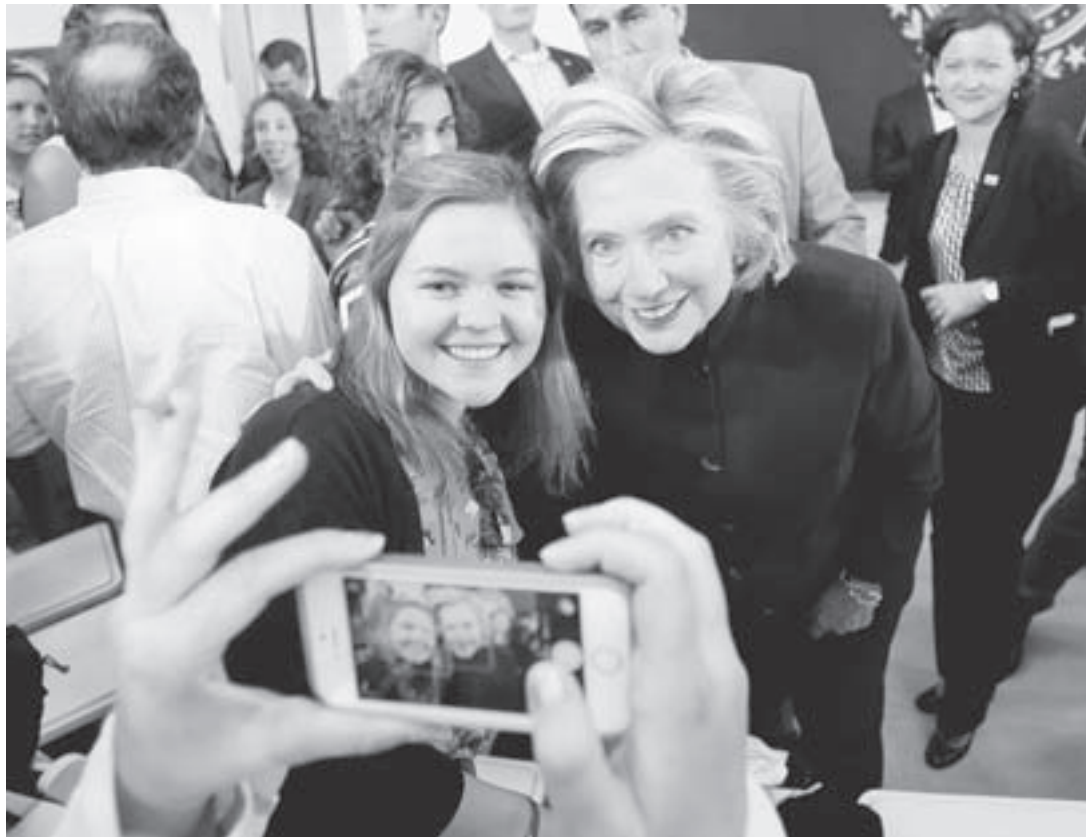





Clinton Relents in E-Mail Inquiry Amid Campaign

Continued from front

Federal investigators began looking into the security of Clinton's email setup after the inspector general of the U.S. intelligence agencies said that classified information may have passed through the system. There is no evidence she used encryption to prevent prying eyes from accessing the emails or her personal server. Clinton campaign spokesman Nick Merrill said Tuesday that she has "pledged to cooperate with the government's security inquiry, and if there are more questions, we will continue to address them." It's not clear if the device will yield any information — Clinton's attorney said in March that no emails from the main personal address she used while secretary of state still "reside on the server or on back-up systems associated with the server." Clinton had to this point refused demands from Republican critics to turn over the server to a third party, with attorney David Kendall telling the



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton poses for a photo during a campaign stop at River Valley Community College in Claremont, New Hampshire.

(AP Photo/Jim Cole)

House of Representatives committee investigating the deadly 2012 attacks that killed four Americans in Benghazi, Libya, that "there is no basis to support the proposed third-party review of the server."

Republicans jumped on Tuesday's decision to change course, as well as the additional disclosure that two emails that traversed Clinton's personal system were subsequently given one of the govern-

ment's highest classification ratings. "All this means is that Hillary Clinton, in the face of FBI scrutiny, has decided she has run out of options," Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus

said in a statement. "She knows she did something wrong and has run out of ways to cover it up." The news about her email server overshadowed her speech this week, in which she unveiled an ambitious \$350 billion plan to address higher education costs, in part by encouraging more state and federal spending, making it easier for students to refinance loans and capping loan payments based on their incomes. In March, Clinton said she exchanged about 60,000 emails in her four years in the Obama administration, about half of which were personal and were discarded. She turned over the other half to the State Department last December. The department is reviewing those emails and has begun the process of releasing them to the public. Also Tuesday, Kendall gave to the Justice Department three thumb drives containing copies of work-related emails sent to and from her personal email addresses via her private server. □

Judge orders Kentucky clerk to issue gay marriage licenses

ADAM BEAM
CLAIRE GALOFARO
Associated Press
FRANKFORT, Kentucky (AP)

— A county clerk in Kentucky will not immediately issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples, her lawyer says, despite a federal judge ordering her to do so Wednesday in a case that seeks to reconcile the country's new marriage law and its protections of religious freedom. Rowan County Clerk Kim Davis was one of a handful of local elected officials

across the country that stopped issuing all marriage licenses after the U.S. Supreme Court legalized same-sex marriage nationwide in June. Two gay couples and two straight couples sued her in federal court in the first lawsuit of its kind in the country. County clerks issue marriage licenses in Kentucky, but someone else must "solemnize" the marriage before the license can be filed with the county clerk. Davis argued that issuing a marriage license to a

same-sex couple that contains her signature is the same as her approving the marriage, which she said violates her Christian beliefs. But U.S. District Judge David Bunning rejected that argument, saying Davis has likely violated the U.S. Constitution's ban on the government establishing a religion by "openly adopting a policy that promotes her own religious convictions at the expenses of others." "Davis remains free to practice her Apostolic Christian beliefs. She may continue

to attend church twice a week, participate in Bible Study and minister to female inmates at the Rowan County Jail. She is even free to believe that marriage is a union between one man and one woman, as many Americans do," Bunning wrote. "However, her religious convictions cannot excuse her from performing the duties that she took an oath to perform as Rowan County Clerk." Despite the court's ruling, Davis' attorney, Roger Gannam, said Davis does

not intend to issue any licenses until "we've exhausted all of our options to protect her rights." Gannam filed his notice of appeal about an hour after Bunning's order. "This lawsuit has never been about them getting married; they could have done that any time," he said, suggesting the couples could have gone to the next county and applied for a license there. "This lawsuit is about forcing Kim Davis to violate her religious liberty." □

Man charged in Texas killings: Kids were becoming 'monsters'

HOUSTON (AP) — A man charged in the deaths of a couple and six children at a Texas home has professed love for one of the victims — his son — but said he thought the children were “growing up to be monsters.”

David Conley, who was in custody Wednesday on capital murder counts,

was formerly in a relationship with the children's mother, Valerie Jackson. Authorities say the two had a 13-year-old son together.

Conley, 48, told local media he loved his son “to death” but that he and the other children weren't being raised properly and acted unkindly toward

others.

“They were growing up to be monsters, they were disrespectful, rude in school,” Conley told one TV station. “I'm not saying they're dead because of that. I'm not even saying I killed them. God says in the Bible do not disrespect your mother and father or your days will be short, but

I'm not saying that's what happened.”

All victims were shot in the head. Police have said most had been handcuffed and some had been shot multiple times. Court records show Conley had a history of domestic violence against Jackson. Conley said Jackson's husband was a “monster”

and had harassed him, and said previous charges of domestic violence against him were “all lies.” Authorities have said Conley told them he discovered on Saturday morning that the locks had been changed at the home after he had moved out. He entered the home through an unlocked window. □

Tuna company agrees to \$6M settlement in worker oven death

BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Bumble Bee Foods agreed to pay \$6 million to settle criminal charges Wednesday in the death of a worker who was cooked in an oven with tons of tuna.

District Attorney Jackie Lacey said the settlement is the largest payout in a California workplace-violation death.

Jose Melena, 62, died three years ago in a 270-degree oven at the seafood company's Santa Fe Springs, California, plant after a co-worker mistakenly believed he was in the bathroom and filled a pressure cooker with six tons of canned tuna.

“This is the worst circumstances of death I have ever, ever witnessed,” said Deputy District Attorney Hoon Chun, who noted he had tried more than 40 murder cases over two decades. “I think any person would prefer to be — if they had to die some way — would prefer to be shot or stabbed than to be slowly cooked in an oven.”

Bumble Bee, its plant Op-



This photo shows the Bumble Bee tuna processing plant in Santa Fe Springs, Calif. Bumble Bee Foods has agreed to pay \$6 million Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015, to settle criminal charges in the death of a Los Angeles-area worker who was cooked in an oven with tons of tuna.

(AP Photo/Nick Ut, File)

erations Director Angel Rodriguez and former safety manager Saul Florez had each been charged with three counts of violating Occupational Safety & Health Administration rules that caused a death.

Under the agreement, Bumble Bee will be plead guilty to a misdemeanor of willfully failing to have an effective safety program in January 2017 if it completes several safety measures that include upgrad-

ing ovens so workers don't get trapped inside and providing worker training. “We will never forget the unfathomable loss of our colleague Jose Melena and we are committed to ensuring that employee

safety remains a top priority at all our facilities,” the San Diego-based company said in a statement.

Florez, 42, of Whittier was sentenced to three years of probation and will face fines and penalties of about \$19,000 after pleading guilty to a single felony count of violating a workplace safety rule that caused a death.

Rodriguez, 63, of Riverside, agreed to plead guilty to a misdemeanor in 18 months and pay about \$11,000 after he completes 320 hours of community service and worker safety courses.

The two men had faced up to three years in prison and fines up to \$250,000 and the company had faced fines up to \$1.5 million.

Melena's family will receive \$1.5 million under the settlement. It does not prevent them from also suing the company or receiving workers' compensation funds, Hoon said.

Melena, 62, had been loading pallets of canned tuna into 35-foot-long ovens at the company's Santa Fe Springs plant before dawn Oct. 11, 2012. □

Florida couple accused of turning girl, 13, into sex slave

MATT SEDENSKY
Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida (AP) — A Florida couple turned a teen into their sex slave and sealed her off from the outside world for more than five years, police said after arresting the two.

Rob Johnson, 44, and his wife, Marie Johnson, 43, of Port St. Lucie, were arrest-

ed Tuesday and charged with felony sexual assault charges.

The Port St. Lucie Police Department said the girl was sent at age 13 to live with the Johnsons after her mother died, and soon after her arrival was told she could only be part of their family by having sex with them. She was told to call Rob “master,” investiga-

tors said in an arrest affidavit, and Marie Johnson pushed her against a wall and held her by her throat until the girl agreed to the sexual demands.

The girl, who is not identified in police filings, was beaten when she didn't follow the couple's directions or complete her chores, according to police. The girl said the abuse went on

repeatedly for more than five years. All the while, Rob Johnson held Sunday school classes for his family at their home, invoking Old Testament Bible passages to justify the actions, the arrest affidavit said.

Police said the girl, now 21, was homeschooled, not allowed to use the phone and forced to rehearse what to say to doctors if

she was asked about sexual activity.

The girl eventually was able to leave the home after her grandmother purchased a plane ticket to bring her to Ohio, the police said.

The Johnsons were freed on bail later Tuesday, the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office said, after each posted \$60,000 bond. □

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Colorado may ban 'candy' name on weed treats

KRISTEN WYATT
Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Edible marijuana products in Colorado may soon come labeled with a red stop sign, according to a draft of new rules released Wednesday by state marijuana regulators.

The state, one of the first to legalize recreational marijuana, might also ban the word "candy" from edible pot products, even if they're sweets such as suckers or gummy chews. The new pot symbol — an octagon stop-sign shape with the letters "THC" to indicate marijuana's psychoactive ingredient — would have to be on individual edible items, not just labels. Liquid marijuana products would be limited to single-serve packaging — defined as 10 milligrams of THC.

The proposed rules were released as the Colorado Marijuana Enforcement Division works on new guidelines for edible marijuana, which can be baked into cookies or brownies or added to a dizzying array of items from sodas, to pasta sauces, to granolas.

The state already bans pot manufacturers from using cartoon characters on packaging or making "look-alike" products such as candies designed to mimic common foods.

Marijuana regulators in Colorado have until January to implement a 2014 law requiring edible marijuana to have a distinct look when outside its packaging. □

Texas inmate executed for killing police officer

MICHAEL GRACZYK
Associated Press

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — Texas inmate Daniel Lee Lopez got his wish Wednesday when he was executed for striking and killing a police lieutenant with an SUV during a chase more than six years ago.

The lethal injection was carried out after the U.S. Supreme Court rejected appeals from his attorneys who disregarded both his desire to die and lower court rulings that Lopez was competent to make that decision.

Lopez, 27, was pronounced dead at 6:31 p.m. CDT. He became the 10th inmate put to death this year in Texas, which carries out capital punishment more than any other state. Nationally, he was the 19th prisoner to be executed. Lopez's "obvious and severe mental illness" was responsible for him wanting to use the legal system for suicide, illustrating his "well-documented history of irrational behavior and suicidal tendencies," attorney David Dow, who represented Lopez, told the high



In this Aug. 5, 2015 photo, Daniel Lee Lopez, 27, speaks from a visiting cage outside death row at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Polunsky Unit near Livingston, Texas. Lopez got his wish Wednesday when he was executed for striking and killing a police lieutenant with an SUV during a chase more than six years ago.

(AP Photo/Michael Graczyk)

court. Dow also argued the March 2009 crime was not a capital murder because Lopez didn't intend to kill Corpus Christi Lt. Stuart Alexander.

Alexander, 47, was standing in a grassy area on the side of a highway where he had put spike strips when he was struck by the sport utility vehicle Lopez was fleeing in.

Lopez, who also wrote letters to a federal judge and pleaded for his execution to move forward, said last week from death row that a Supreme Court reprieve would be "disappointing." "I've accepted my fate," he said. "I'm just ready to move on." Nueces County District Attorney Mark Skurka said Lopez showed "no regard for human life"

when he fought with an officer during a traffic stop, then sped away, evading pursuing officers and striking Alexander, who had been on the police force for 20 years. Even when he finally was cornered by police cars, Lopez tried ramming his SUV to escape and didn't stop until he was shot. "He had no moral scruples, no nothing. □

Federal court:

Anti-Muslim group can't post ads on buses

MARTHA BELLISLE
Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — An anti-Muslim group cannot post ads on buses in Washington state showing photos of wanted terrorists and wrongly claiming the FBI offers a \$25 million reward for their one of their captures, a federal appeals court ruled Wednesday.

A three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals rejected a claim by the American Freedom Defense Initiative that King County violated its First

Amendment right to free speech by refusing to post the advertisements on buses.

The group — whose leader, Pamela Geller, organized the Prophet Muhammad cartoon contest in Texas that exploded in violence in May — has similar bus ads in other cities and has gone to court with mixed results after some transportation officials rejected them.

David Yerushalmi, the group's lawyer, said the group will appeal Wednesday's ruling to the U.S. Su-

preme Court.

The American Freedom Defense Initiative sought to display an ad in Washington called "Faces of Global Terrorism," which included 16 photographs of militants with their names listed and the statement "AFDI Wants You to Stop a Terrorist." It said the FBI offers a \$25 million reward to capture one of the people shown.

King County Metro Transit rejected the banner, saying it failed to meet advertising policy guidelines that prohibit ads that are "false

or misleading, demeaning or disparaging or harmful or disruptive to the transit system."

The appeals court agreed that the claim about the reward was false.

"The FBI is not offering rewards at all, and the State Department offers a reward of at most \$5 million, not \$25 million, for the capture of one of the pictured terrorists," the court said.

The judges said Metro's rejection "likely was reasonable." □

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DAILY 5:30pm - 7:30pm \$32 pp
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586 8107/592 7858

Iraqi premier says will seek mandate to change constitution

VIVIAN SALAMA
SINAN SALAHEDDIN
Associated Press
BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's

calls to fight corruption and curtail government spending. The announcement came as Islamic State mili-

major economic crisis and a crippling war with the IS, which has put a choke on domestic services in recent

Basra in the south. In Baghdad, Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi said he respects the current constitution, implemented in 2005, but believes "it is incomplete."

"Any change in the political process should be in need of a change in the constitution," al-Abadi said, speaking at a conference in Baghdad. "I hope that I'll get a mandate from people to alter the constitution."

Last week, tens of thousands took to the streets across the country, calling on al-Abadi to dissolve parliament and remove corrupt officials.

On Tuesday, lawmakers unanimously approved a reform plan proposed by al-Abadi that eliminates the three vice presidencies and the three deputy prime minister posts, dismantling part of the top-heavy government established after the 2003 U.S.-led invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein. The tripartite offices were intended to give equal represen-

tation to Iraq's Shiite majority and its Sunni and Kurdish minorities.

The reforms also expand the powers of the prime minister, allowing him to sack provincial governors and the heads of provincial and local councils.

The plan further sidelines Vice President Nouri al-Maliki, al-Abadi's predecessor who was widely blamed for inflaming sectarian tensions and staffing the military with underqualified supporters, paving the way for the Islamic State group's rapid advance across northern and western Iraq last year.

Iraq's most revered Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani called on al-Abadi last week to strike "with an iron fist" anyone who tampers with the people's money.

"It is possible to delete paragraphs from the constitution that were written in hasty way," al-Abadi said Wednesday. "The constitution has so many mistakes — we have to correct them." □



Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi, center, attends the International Youth Day celebration in Baghdad, Iraq, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015. (AP Photo/Karim Kadim)

prime minister announced Wednesday he will seek a popular mandate to change the country's constitution amid widespread

tants ambushed a military convoy in Iraq's western Anbar province, killing at least 14 soldiers.

Iraq has been gripped by a

months. Discontent is rising, even among the country's Shiite majority, with protests springing up in cities from the capital, Baghdad, to

Leaked documents raise anger over Palestinian corruption

M. DARAGHMEH
Associated Press
RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP)

— Documents leaked on-line detailing two attempts by Palestinian officials to misuse public funds have triggered outrage, highlighting the corruption and mismanagement critics say remains rampant in the Palestinian government.

The furor over the documents comes as the Palestinian economy is stagnating and Palestinians grow

increasingly displeased with government services. Palestinian Authority officials have defended their record on stamping out corruption, saying they've recovered millions of dollars in misspent funds.

A senior Palestinian official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not allowed to discuss the leak, confirmed the documents' authenticity to The Associated Press. The origin of the leak was not known

and the documents had been circulated on Facebook. They have offered a rare glimpse into the wheeling and dealing of the Palestinian government, long bogged down by rivalries.

One document, signed by Majdi al-Khaldi, a diplomatic adviser to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas who accompanies him on his trips to world capitals, asked Bahrain's foreign minister for \$4 million to fund a private neigh-

borhood complex for Palestinian officials in an upscale area of Ramallah in the West Bank. He insisted the complex was "meant to resist the Israeli settlements," even though there are no settlements where the complex was built. Opposing Jewish settlements in the West Bank is a major rallying cry for Palestinians, who demand the territory that Israel captured in the 1967 Mideast war as part of their future state, along with

the Gaza Strip and east Jerusalem. It isn't clear if Bahrain ever paid the money. Al-Khaldi declined to comment when reached by the AP. The other document by Nazmi Muhanna, general director of the Palestinian Crossing and Borders Authority, requested the government pay for his daughter's schooling as well as medical treatment for his family in Jordan for a total of \$15,000, a hefty sum for many Palestinians. □

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Greek bailout package details pored over across Europe

ELENA BECATOROS
LORNE COOK

Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) —

Details of Greece's latest bailout package were being pored over across Europe on Wednesday as Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras insisted the agreement with creditors would put "a definitive end" to the country's economic uncertainty. Tsipras has called an emergency session of parliament to discuss and vote on the bill, which includes painful tax hikes and spending cuts, in time for a confirmed meeting Friday of the eurozone's 19 finance ministers in Brussels. The so-called eurogroup has to sign off on the bailout deal — as do a few parliaments — so the funds on offer can be released in time for Greece to avoid defaulting on a big debt repayment to the European Central Bank on Aug. 20. The three-year bailout is worth about 85 billion euros (\$93 billion).

To restore trust and rebuild confidence they say has been damaged over the past few months, Greece's creditors have insisted that lawmakers approve about 40 pieces of legislation by Thursday, and meet several other conditions by October.

Although Tsipras is facing fierce opposition from hardliners within his left-wing Syriza party over the bailout, the bill is expected to pass in the 300-member parliament as lawmakers in pro-European opposition parties have said they will back the agreement.

While all technical aspects of the deal have been finalized, it still needs the approval of the other 18 eurozone nations' finance ministers.

EU economic affairs spokes-

person Annika Breidthardt said lower level finance officials would discuss the agreement by phone on Wednesday evening. Several countries, including Germany, which has been Greece's harshest critic and is its most influential creditor,

must then also ratify the deal in their own parliaments before any funds can be disbursed. EU officials say the deal aims to eliminate any uncertainty over reforms required from Greece and that "up-front action" is needed from Athens to gain access to the funds.

"We have not gone for a quick fix, we have not cut corners," one official said. "This is a comprehensive agreement."

They spoke only on condition of anonymity, in line with their department's rules. The bailout is based on sharply worsened economic growth projections following months of uncertainty and political turmoil that included the Greek government imposing banking restrictions to prevent an all-out bank run. After shrinking 2.3 percent this year and 1.3 percent next, the Greek economy is expected to return to growth of 2.7 percent in 2017.

Germany said it was still assessing the agreement. Chancellor Angela Merkel's spokesman, Steffen Seibert, said Berlin wants to examine the deal with "the necessary thoroughness" and that it's "too early for a clear evaluation."

In Athens, Tsipras had asked the parliament's speaker to have the bill go through committee level Wednesday, ahead of a full debate and vote by the end of Thursday.



Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras, right, chats with employees during his visit at the transport ministry in Athens, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015. Details of Greece's latest bailout package were being pored over across Europe on Wednesday as Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras insisted the agreement with creditors would put "a definitive end to economic uncertainty."

(Giannis Liakos/InTime News via AP)



SPECIAL DINNER MENU

Soups

* Spicy Beef Soup / Madam Jeanette

*French Onion Soup

or

Keski Yena "Local"

Ovenbaked Gouda cheese filled with ragout of chicken breast, celery, cashew nuts, raisins, onions and olives

or

Crispy Asian Salad

Rice noodle and crispy veggies served with ginger sesame dressing

Entrees

Chicken Alfredo Pasta served on homemade fettuccini pasta topped with shaved parmesan

or

Grilled marinated Skirted Steak and Shrimps

served with seasonal veggies, herbed potatoes and chimichuri sauce

or

Panfried Filet of Grouper

served with stirfried veggies, mashed potatoes and creamy clam sauce

Dessert

Key Lime Pie

or

Chocolate Cheese Cake

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China currency falls for 2nd day after surprise devaluation

JOE McDONALD
AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — China's yuan fell further Wednesday, fueling concern about a possible "currency war" if other governments fight back with their own devaluations to compete in export markets. Shock waves from Tuesday's 1.9 percent devaluation against the U.S. dollar, which was the yuan's biggest change in a decade, spread through financial

markets, causing stocks and Asian currencies to tumble. Beijing said the yuan's decline was a one-time event and part of changes aimed at making the tightly controlled currency more market-oriented. But analysts said allowing market forces free rein could drive the yuan sharply lower. Those suggestions gained ammunition when the currency slid another 1.6 percent on Wednesday.

"It is very possible that we could see a 10 to 15 percent drop in the exchange rate against the U.S. dollar in the next week or two," said Duncan Innes-Ker of The Economist Intelligence Unit in a research note. Investors saw Beijing's move as an effort to benefit its exporters but many economists rejected that view because global demand is weak. The yuan's decline was small compared with fluctuations of freely traded

currencies. But after a decade of little or no movement, the change rattled financial markets and threatened to fan political tensions with Europe and the United States. While the International Monetary Fund welcomed Beijing's support for market forces, the change sparked complaints in Washington by lawmakers who accuse Beijing of manipulating its currency to gain a trade

advantage. "This move may also trigger a new currency war" if central banks respond by trying to depress their country's own exchange rates, said Nicholas Teo of CMC Markets in a report. Asian currencies declined as the lower yuan weighed on prices in markets where China is a major trader. Malaysia's ringgit and the Indonesia rupiah plunged to their lowest levels in 17 years. □

At Press Time:

At least 17 dead after explosions hit China port city

C. BODEEN
Associated Press

TIANJIN, China (AP) — Huge explosions at a warehouse for dangerous materials in the northeastern Chinese port of Tianjin killed at least 14 people, injured hundreds and sent massive fireballs into the night sky, officials and eyewitnesses said Thursday. China's state broadcaster, CCTV, said that at least 17 people were killed and that 32 were in critical condition in hospital. Hundreds of others were taken to hospital. The explosions late Wednesday knocked off doors of buildings in the area and shattered windows up to several kilometers (miles) away. "I thought it was an earthquake, so I rushed downstairs without my shoes on," Tianjin resident Zhang Siyu,



A hospital worker and a resident push what appears to be a lifeless body into a hospital in northeastern China's Tianjin municipality, Thursday, Aug. 13, 2015. Chinese state media reported huge explosions at the Tianjin port late Wednesday.

(AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

whose home is several kilometers from the blast site, said in a telephone interview. "Only once I was outside did I realize it was an explosion. There was the

huge fireball in the sky with thick clouds. Everybody could see it." Zhang said she could see wounded people weeping. She said she did not

see anyone who had been killed, but "I could feel death." Police in Tianjin said an initial blast took place at shipping containers in a ware-

house for hazardous materials owned by Ruihai Logistics, a company that says it's properly approved to handle hazardous materials. State media said senior management of the company had been detained by authorities. It's part of an industrial park, with some apartment buildings in the vicinity. The official Xinhua News agency said an initial explosion triggered other blasts at nearby businesses. The National Earthquake Bureau reported two major blasts before midnight, the first with an equivalent of 3 tons of TNT, and the second with the equivalent of 21 tons. Photos taken by bystanders and circulating on microblogs show a gigantic fireball high in the sky, with a mushroom-cloud. □

Insufficiently Korean: Top retailer tripped by ties to Japan

YOUKYUNG LEE
AP Business Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — When South Korean Chung Yu-suk read an article about retailer Lotte's chocolate ads featuring a Japanese figure skating star, he was so angered he started an online group urging Koreans to boycott their country's top retailer. Chung is one of a growing number of South Koreans vowing to punish Lotte after a family battle for control of the company spilled out in public and highlighted their deep links to Japan, Ko-

rea's former colonizer. The choice of Japanese skater Mao Asada for the advertisement that first appeared years ago was not surprising since it was aimed at the Japanese market, where Lotte also has businesses. But in South Korea, it only reinforced perceptions Lotte is more Japanese than Korean and particularly because Asada is considered the chief rival of the South's beloved Kim Yuna, an Olympic gold medalist. "I don't understand how Lotte Japan picked her

knowing that she would compete with Kim Yuna," said Chung, a self-employed 45-year-old who lives in Daegu city in the country's southeast. The battle for control of Lotte pits the family's youngest scion against its aging patriarch and his oldest son. As the brothers appeared in public to blame each other for the increasingly ugly power struggle, South Koreans were reminded of two facts they found unpalatable: Neither of the men who both claim they are

South Korean speaks Korean fluently and the holding company of Lotte is based in Japan with Japanese shareholders. It's unclear how damaging the boycott call will be for Lotte in South Korea, where the company earns most of its profits. But the anti-Lotte activists have chosen an opportune moment to ignite sentiment against the company. South Korea will mark the 70th anniversary of independence from Japan's colonial rule on Saturday, a moment of national re-

flection that comes during a period of particularly strained ties between the East Asian neighbors. South Korea's government says Japan has failed to atone for forced labor, forced prostitution and other brutalities during its colonial rule. National flags are on display on streets and on buildings. A movie about Korean independence fighters in the 1930s attempting to assassinate a Japanese military commander and a pro-Japanese businessman is a box office hit. □



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PRESENT THIS AD AND RECEIVE \$10 DISCOUNT PER COUPLE

Argentina officials try damage control after intense flooding

A. CALATRAVA
Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Argentina's government tried to ease public anger Wednesday over flooding that forced an estimated 11,000 people to flee their homes in Buenos Aires province.

The inadequacy of flood prevention measures in Argentina's largest province that was evident after torrential weekend rainstorms has become a hot issue ahead of the Oct. 25 presidential election.

Economy Minister Axel Kicillof announced measures Wednesday to help retirees and low-income families affected by rivers spilling over their banks. Cabinet Chief Anibal Fernandez, who is running for governor of Buenos Aires province, visited the areas hit by flooding that killed at least three people.

The current governor, Daniel Scioli, who is a presidential candidate, was forced to return to Argentina after he was criticized for traveling to Italy during the emergency. His office said that Scioli's trip involved medical matters for a prosthetic arm and that he would be back home Thursday.

Scioli, a former power boat champion who lost his right arm in a 1989 crash, is the chosen successor of President Cristina Fernandez and received the most votes in Sunday's open primaries. Several polling places were relocated during the voting because of flooding.

The storms in northern Buenos Aires province dropped a record total of 35 centimeters (almost 14 inches) of rain in some areas, according to the province's agency for emergencies.

Some residents of Buenos Aires province blamed poor infrastructure for the destructive flooding. In 2013, at least 80 people died in the provincial capital of La Plata as flooding from days of heavy rains swamped Argentina's low-lying capital and the province of Buenos Aires.

Buenos Aires Mayor Mauricio Macri is Scioli's main challenger in the presidential election. On Wednesday, Macri said Scioli's lack of management and the urgent need for public works in the province were the main causes for the latest disaster.

The national government has acknowledged the need for more drainage works in the area. But the provincial government says the drainage works demanded by residents are being carried out and already helped reduce the damage from the latest flooding.

Metereologist Eduardo Sierra told local Radio Del Plata that a stronger than expected EL Nino weather pattern is causing the heavy rains.

The Arrecifes River grew to 29 feet (nearly 9 meters), nearly twice its usual level. Although the Arrecifes, Lujan and Areco rivers are slowly lowering, authorities were concerned about the possibility of more rains and wind.

One of the worst-hit cities is Lujan, about 46 miles (75 kilometers) west of Argentina's capital. □



Maria Daniela kisses her father Daniel Ceballos, former mayor of the western city of San Cristobal, as he looks out from an apartment window with his wife Patricia de Ceballos, right, daughter Maria Veronica, left, and son Juan Daniel in Caracas, Venezuela, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015. (AP Photo/Ariana Cubillos)

Venezuela:

Opposition leader shifts to house arrest

HANNAH DREIER
Associated Press
CARACAS, Venezuela

(AP) — One of the Venezuelan opposition's most prominent leaders made his first public appearance in a year and a half on Wednesday, saying he hopes his release from prison means others might be let out as well.

Daniel Ceballos, former mayor of the restive western city of San Cristobal, was transferred to house arrest for health reasons late Tuesday night.

On Wednesday, he shouted a statement to the press from a second floor window of a relative's apartment in an upscale part of Caracas, saying the change represented a hopeful sign "that all political prisoners might be reunited with their families." The 31-year-old leader, who is awaiting trial on charges of civil rebellion,

suffered from kidney and stomach problems during a 20-day hunger strike in June, according to his supporters.

His release could signal that the country's socialist administration is taking a new approach to the more than 50 anti-government activists human rights groups say remain jailed on invented charges.

"Ceballos was jailed on some heavy charges. I think this is going to give the other prisoners a lot of reason to hope that the same thing will happen to them," said Dimitris Pantoulas, a political and business consultant based in Caracas.

In May, Ceballos won a primary from behind bars to run for a congressional seat, but elections officials later barred him from holding public office.

He went on a 20-day hunger strike with another

jailed opposition leader, Leopoldo Lopez, to demand that the government set a date for congressional elections and release the people they consider political prisoners. The election date has now been set, and several prisoners have been freed.

Ceballos was arrested in March 2014 on charges related to his support of anti-government demonstrations in San Cristobal that helped ignite a nationwide protest movement. He will be bound by standard house arrest rules prohibiting him from speaking publicly, using social media and engaging in political activity. On Wednesday, he joyfully hugged his wife and three young children while sporting a heavy beard and not looking obviously sickly. His wife said he will not rest until Lopez and the other prisoners are also sent home. □

Bouterse inaugurated for 2nd term as Suriname's president

PIETER VAN MAELE

Associated Press

PARAMARIBO, Suriname

(AP) — Former coup leader and convicted drug trafficker Desi Bouterse was inaugurated Wednesday for a second consecutive term leading Suriname as the democratically elected president.

After being sworn in, Bouterse pledged to restructure the sparsely populated South American country's struggling economy away from its dependence on exporting commodities like gold, bauxite and oil.

"The time is right to develop new sectors which will guarantee a sustainable development for us," he said, adding that tourism, renewable energy and agriculture will be high on his next government's agen-

da.

Bouterse appointed a new 16-member Cabinet immediately after his inauguration, which was attended by a few foreign heads of state, including the leaders of Ecuador and neighboring Guyana.

The appointment of new ministers was welcomed by the opposition of the ethnically diverse nation of roughly 540,000 people.

"The fact that Bouterse chose to replace the ministers of his underperforming first Cabinet is promising," said Chandrikapersad Santokhi, the main opposition leader.

Bouterse led his National Democratic Party to victory in May elections, but fell short of the required 34-seat majority to automatically be re-elected as



Suriname President Desire Delano Bouterse arrives to his second term inaugural ceremony with his wife, first lady Ingrid Bouterse-Waldring, in Paramaribo, Suriname, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015.

(AP Photo/Ertugrul Kilic)

president. Last month, Parliament gave him a second term without a vote since there was no opposition. His second five-year term will be dominated by economic issues. The country's economy has been hit hard by falling prices of oil and gold, and Bouterse's first term saw generous social programs for children and the elderly paid for with foreign reserves of the central bank. In December

2012, the bank's reserves stood at roughly \$1 billion. Two months ago, \$540 million was left.

Last month, Bouterse said Suriname faces "difficult times" and vowed to cut expenses and govern with fewer public employees. But prominent political analyst August Boldewijn said he does not think Bouterse will have an easy time scaling down social programs. "Thanks to his social spend-

ing, he was able to make the voters forget his checkered track record as a military dictator," said Boldewijn, a political science professor at the University of Paramaribo.

Bouterse has loomed over Surinamese politics for decades. He first rose to power in 1980, when he led a military coup just five years after Suriname gained independence from the Netherlands. □

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Puerto Rico: mass wedding of gay couples set

DANICA COTO

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico

(AP) — More than 60 gay couples are preparing to exchange vows at a mass wedding in Puerto Rico, celebrating a U.S. Supreme Court ruling affecting the socially conservative U.S. territory, organizers said Wednesday.

Most of the couples are Puerto Ricans, but others from Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Cuba and Venezuela also are participating in the event scheduled for Sunday in San Juan's colonial district.

"This is a historic event for all of Puerto Rico," said organizer Ada Conde, an attorney who had filed a federal lawsuit seeking to have her gay marriage recognized in the U.S. territory prior to the Supreme Court decision.

"This is not a show. This is not a parade. This is a solemn event to celebrate the fruit of our sacrifice."

Conde said she anticipated protests and noted that police officers would be posted at the ceremony. Puerto Rico until recently prohibited same-sex marriage and the recognition of such marriages, but the government struck down those laws after the Supreme Court decision. Officials also now allow gay couples to adopt children, and two couples have already begun that process, said Nancy Vega, director of the island's demographics office.

Among those getting married Sunday is Maritza Lopez, who has been with her partner for 39 years and was among those who filed a lawsuit against Puerto Ri-

co's government.

"You would think that after 39 years I wouldn't be nervous, but I am," she said with a laugh. "I have butterflies in my stomach. I didn't think any of this was going to happen so quickly."

Previously, the administration of Governor Alejandro Garcia Padilla had approved several measures in favor of the gay community, including one that prohibits employment discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation and another that extends a domestic violence law to gay couples. This week, the governor also signed two executive orders that will allow transgender and transsexual people to change their gender on their driver's license and protect their rights when seeking medical services. □



Tomato Charlie's Announces Hot August Special!

PALM BEACH - Wondering where to get a Chicago style thin crust pizza?

A place with authentic Italian dishes, salads, pasta, and frozen specialty drinks with a fun, friendly, open-air atmosphere and casual dining?

Well look no further!

Tomato Charlie's is here! Located in the heart of the high rise hotel area on Palm Beach, in front of the Brickell Bay Beach Club & Spa. The chef creates Italian dishes using fresh ingredients with many enticing options to choose from. You may want start with their spinach and artichoke dip followed by a main course of delicious chicken marsala and compliment



menu is designed to cater many palates, with a generous selection of appetizers, pizza, pasta and salads as well as chicken, beef and seafood, it will surely satisfy your appetite. The bar offers a wide variety of beer, cocktails and wine or you may want to try one of the tempting frozen smoothies which they created at your request, with or without alcohol.

So whether you're in the mood for something tasty from the menu or just want to sit outside on terrace and enjoy their signature sangria with an appetizer, Tomato Charlie's is the place to be.

Open from 7:00am until 12:00 Midnight



it with a glass of wine. Or maybe you're in the mood for their mouth watering BBQ chicken pizza and ice cold pitcher of draft beer.

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Celebrating Our Roots

PALM BEACH - Chef Urvin Croes, born and raised in Aruba, trained at Dutch culinary school, went on to gain experience in Michelin star restaurants in Europe. Coming back to Aruba, Chef Urvin had a dream to open Aruba's first fine dining, modern gourmet cuisine restaurant. With the opening of White Modern Cuisine in 2012, that dream came true. White Modern Cuisine is now recognized as one of Aruba's best fine dining establishments, having been named Aruba's #1 modern cuisine restaurant and winner of numerous other culinary awards.

With the success of White Modern Cuisine, Chef Urvin was encouraged to take it to next level and open a culinary studio, The Kitchen Table by White. At The Kitchen Table by White, Chef Urvin is revolutionizing the way vacationers and islanders regard Aruban and Caribbean cuisine. Using a monthly changing, fixed menu concept for the 16 seat restaurant, guests are surprised by elegant and exquisite dishes, with the option to be perfectly paired with a wide-ranging selection of fine wines. This month, with The Kitch-



en Table by White celebrating its first year on the scene, Chef Urvin created a menu highlighting guests' favorite items from the past year.

The experience starts off with a trio of amuses, the famous Webo Yena, Spring roll with Keri Keri and Arpita with Chicken Salad. The Webo Yena, better known to our international guests as devilled eggs, are a staple at most Aruban celebrations. The second course serves Cured Scallops, the favorite of a European Michelin Star chef when he visited The Kitchen Table this year. The next course is the Tuna Taco, the spectacular starter from the Latin Caribbean menu. The first entrée is Chef Urvin's take on the traditional Aruban Keshi Yena: no celebration of the The Kitchen Table



could be complete without this popular Aruban chicken and cheese dish that Chef Urvin was able to elevate to a level of haute cuisine so unexpected and special you will never forget it. The next entrée is the Guava glazed Duck that is featured in the Caribbean menu, a Caribbean twist to a traditional Asian dish. For those who select the optional wine pairing, the Speatburgunder wine accompanying this dish is a delight for the senses, a perfect pairing with the duck dish. From the Traditional Aruban dishes menu

Chef brings back the Barbaqa Lamb. The culinary journey is closed with the Pumpkin Dessert, translating the sounds, colors and happiness of Aruba's carnival into a festive celebration of the pumpkin. At the evening's end you will recognize why The Kitchen Table by White is the most gastronomically creative cuisine on Aruba. For more information on The Kitchen Table, please visit www.thekitchentablebywhite.com or telephone 528-7015 or visit your hotel concierge for reservations. □

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race can call for reservations at 583-5278 or pass by at the track for an arrive-and-drive session open

Tuesday till Sunday from 10am till sunset. We are located only minutes away from the Low Rise Hotels, in

front of Ling & Sons supermarket. More info: www.bushirikarting.com or look for us on Tripadvisor. □



Team Aruba Shakes Off Disappointing Weekend

MARTIN, Mich. - The IHRA Nitro Jam Northern Nationals started off well for Team Aruba. After a satisfying day of testing on Thursday, the Aruba.com Mustang came out ready for action in Friday qualifying and was sitting number two with a 6.314 pass at the end of the day. Qualifying continued on Saturday. As cloud cover cooled temperatures, the competition picked up their pace, and Team Aruba was bumped back to fourth in qualifying. However, this still put them in the top half of the ladder, earning them lane choice for eliminations. Trevor Eman and Team Aruba were paired with reigning champion Cary Goforth for round one of eliminations. "In the course of the day the sun started to come back out," Eman began explaining, "and I must say I think we underestimated how quickly the track will heat up with the

sun shining on it. We made what we felt were the necessary adjustments to tune down the car for the hotter weather and heated track. Unfortunately our adjustments weren't what the track required to get down. "We experienced severe tire shake. However, Cary did as well. It became a gas peddling match down the track. One where Cary would pass the finish line first. "It certainly isn't the outing we expected. We travel thousands of miles from Aruba, further than any other participant, to get to the races in the US. Traveling so far to only have our weekend end prematurely is definitely unpleasant." Although Eman was clearly disappointed with their results from the Northern Nationals, the team did run and qualify well, which gives them momentum to build upon for the next event, the IHRA Nitro Jam San Antonio Nationals,



September 25-26. "That unpleasantness only sticks around for a short time," Eman added. "As soon as the race car is put away and the emotions settle, you realize that you are surrounded by a team of guys who also are ready to get back to it shortly after everything settles to normal." Aside from an unsuccessful race for Team Aruba, our promotional efforts were very successful. We had our information display stand filled with all sorts of great giveaways from both the Aruba Tourism Authority and the Aruba Airport Authority. The fans were visiting on a con-

stant basis. Although a unsatisfying weekend of racing, it was certainly a very satisfying weekend of being in touch with fans. Our Autism Speaks donation box was also generously taken care of by racing fans and Autism Awareness supporters. Hopefully we see more great fans come out to the races the rest of this year and less rain, because we have sure seen our fair share of rain so far." The Eman family and Team Aruba crew are always welcoming of fans and love the opportunity to talk about the island paradise they call home. "We're happy to have been host-

ed by US 131 Motorsports Park, a top notch facility where we are always treated like family. Too bad we don't get to visit such venues more times per year. The IHRA did a great job completing this event, which was also plagued by rain showers. They were able to complete both the Budds Creek event and this event. "All our guys, John, Bruce and Doug and my father and myself will be home for a couple of weeks where we will look back at what went wrong and make sure we are well prepared for the next race. We will continue to work hard and be looking for more win lights in San Antonio." Follow Team Aruba on Facebook and Twitter. Find race results, team updates, videos and photos. Also leave your comments to cheer on Team Aruba! For more on your Aruba vacation visit www.Aruba.qcom. □

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Judge puts NFL on hot seat; belittles 'Deflategate'

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A federal judge put the NFL on the defensive over its four-game suspension of New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady on Wednesday, demanding to know what evidence directly links Brady to deflating footballs and belittling the drama of the controversy.

"What is the direct evidence that implicates Mr. Brady?" Judge Richard M. Berman repeatedly asked NFL lawyer Daniel L. Nash at the first hearing in the civil case in Manhattan federal court as Brady and Commissioner Roger Goodell looked on.

Nash responded there was "considerable evidence Mr. Brady clearly knew about this," including records of text messages and phone calls between the quarterback and one of two Patriots employees implicated in the scandal known as "Deflategate."

But he also said there was no "smoking gun" showing Brady had direct knowledge that the balls were underinflated for the first half of the Patriots' 45-7 win over the Indianapolis Colts in the AFC championship game Jan. 18.

Brady and Goodell didn't speak during the hearing, except to introduce themselves to Berman. Brady, his head lowered, looked dour as lawyers spoke for about 1 hour, 20 minutes.

Immediately afterward, Brady smiled slightly as he signed sketches for two court artists. Berman then met individually with each side for more settlement discussions in private.

Continued on Page 19

TOP GUN



McIlroy-Spieth is golf's best rivalry in decade

Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, left, smiles on the driving range before a practice round ; and Jordan Spieth drives on the first hole during a practice round for the PGA Championship golf tournament Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015, at Whistling Straits in Haven, Wis.

Associated Press
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LeBron: Health, family will determine 2016 Olympic plans

BRIAN MAHONEY

AP Basketball Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — LeBron James said Wednesday his health and his family will determine whether he tries for a record third basketball Olympic gold medal next summer.

James took part in USA Basketball's minicamp, satisfying chairman Jerry Colangelo's mandate that anyone wanting to be considered for the 2016 roster show up this week in Las Vegas.

James suited up in a No. 27 jersey and worked out, though he won't play in the Americans' intrasquad exhibition Thursday because of a previous commitment back in Ohio.

The Cleveland Cavaliers All-Star could join Carmelo Anthony and Chris Paul as the only three-time gold medalists, and he and Anthony would be the first American men to appear in four Olympics.

James says he's "not penciling it in, as of now, for next summer" and that his decision may not come until after next season.

"All my decisions go through my family. We'll see how my family feels about it," James said. "And



A mural of Cleveland Cavaliers basketball forward LeBron James looms over the arena as workers make final preparations at the Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland, Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015, for tonight's first Republican presidential debate.

then with my health, going another NBA campaign season, as far as my team back home in Cleveland, and I'll go from there."

He first played for the Americans in the 2004 Olympics, when he and Anthony were part of the disappointing bronze medalists following their rookie sea-

sons. That duo and Paul, all close friends, are the only players in camp this week who competed in both 2008 and 2012, and could decide together whether they will try to make history. "It'll probably be a joint decision," James said. "Pretty much everything that we do, for the most part, es-

pecially with Team USA, we kind of do together. We'll see what happens."

James also played with the Americans in the 2006 world basketball championship and the 2007 Olympic qualifying tournament. He said he enjoyed being back Wednesday and re-connecting with coaches

and teammates.

"LeBron's made an amazing commitment to our country's basketball program, huge positive impact besides just winning," U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski said.

But all that basketball, plus his four straight trips to the NBA Finals, have put a heavy workload on the 30-year-old James. The Cavaliers will be favorites to get back to the finals next season, and James may feel he needs rest more than another medal. For now,

he's done what is necessary to give himself the option if he wants it.

"I'm not penciling it in, as of now, for next summer. But this is the start of the process for all of us," James said.

"There's 34 guys here. When you're a part of Team USA, you represent your country, this is all a part of the process.

"I've given everything to the NBA. I've given it all to USAB as well.

If I'm fortunate enough, if I'm healthy enough and my family is willing to allow me be a part of it, it'd be great. ... We'll see where I'm at after the season." □

Associated Press



In this Aug. 4, 2015, file photo, New York Jets quarterback Geno Smith responds to questions during a news conference after practice at NFL football training camp in Florham Park, N.J.

Associated Press

DENNIS WASZAK Jr.

AP Sports Writer

FLORHAM PARK, New Jersey (AP) — Geno Smith's hopes for a breakout season with the New York Jets took a major blow — to the jaw. The quarterback will be sidelined at least 6-10

weeks with a broken jaw after being punched by teammate Ikemefuna Enemkpali in the locker room Tuesday morning. Smith, entering his third season, will require surgery to repair the injuries. He hadn't yet undergone the procedure

Jets' Smith out 6-10 weeks after punched in jaw by teammate

as of late Tuesday afternoon.

"It had nothing to do with football," coach Todd Bowles said. "It was something very childish, and he got cold-cocked, sucker-punched — whatever you want to call it — in the jaw." Bowles made the stunning announcement in an impromptu news conference before training camp practice was scheduled to start. Enemkpali (EN-um-PAL-ee), an outside linebacker in his second season, was immediately released by the Jets.

"It was something very childish, that sixth-graders could have talked about," Bowles said. "It had no reason for happening."

Neither Bowles nor a small handful of players made available to the media would go into detail about the incident, or if they knew what sparked it.

"This isn't a UFC match," guard Willie Colon said. "We're football players, not fighters."

Added cornerback Darrelle Revis: "I hold both of them responsible. ... But at the same time, you've got to move forward."

Smith, who was having a good training camp, will be sidelined for the rest of the summer and likely for the first few games of the season. The regular-season opener at home against Cleveland on Sept. 13 is five weeks away.

"Depending on how surgery goes, we'll see where we go from there," Bowles said.

Smith took to Instagram and posted a picture of himself sitting in a car — mouth closed and looking stern — and a simple message: "ILL BE BACK."

In a statement issued to The Associated Press by his agent, Enemkpali apologized to the team and fans. "Geno and I let our frustration get the best of us, but I should have just walked away from the situation," Enemkpali said. "I deeply regret and apologize for my actions. It was never my intention to harm anyone. I appreciate the opportunity I had with the Jets." □

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Continued from Page 17

The talks continued more than four hours until about 5 p.m. Afterward, a smiling Brady left the courthouse. Several people shouted "cheater, cheater!" Berman could be seen briefly speaking with Goodell inside the courthouse before the commissioner left to a waiting sports utility vehicle about 10 minutes after Brady. Goodell smiled as dozens of photo and video journalists did their work. Neither of them spoke and there was no immediate word on the status of talks. Two weeks ago, the NFL asked Berman to declare that its punishment of Brady was properly carried out. The players' union countersued, asking him to nullify the suspension. The judge has signaled from the start that he wants the parties to reach a swift settlement. On Wednesday, Berman called it "ironic or not" that Brady's statistics were better in the second half of the AFC championship game,

after the balls were re-inflated. "You might say (Brady) got no better advantage from the under-inflation," the judge said. At one point, the judge also seemed to try to defuse the controversy, saying: "This Deflategate. I'm not sure where the 'gate' comes from." When the union got its chance to argue, the judge asked attorney Jeffrey L. Kessler why one of the Patriots employees would deflate balls without Brady's knowledge. Kessler said the union does not believe the balls were deflated but, if they were, the employee did it on his own because he "thought it would be good for his quarterback." The judge also questioned why Brady destroyed his cellphone in the midst of the inquiry — a move that the league argues was further proof of his deception. Kessler claimed that the quarterback got rid of the phone on the advice of his

agent to protect his privacy but had otherwise cooperated with the inquiry. However, in hindsight, "You're right, it could have been done a different way," the lawyer said of the phone. Both sides are scheduled to return to court next week. As Goodell arrived at the courthouse, he was greeted by a smattering of boos as he walked inside. Four minutes later, Brady arrived flanked by four security guards. Both men went through a security sweep like everyone else going to court. Dozens of fans and journalists waited for two of the NFL's most famous faces at the front entrance of the courthouse, including some fans wearing deflated football hats they were hoping to sell. Goodell suspended Brady after concluding he "knew about, approved of, consented to, and provided inducements and rewards" to support a scheme in which a Patriots employee deflated balls on game



New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady leaves Federal court, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015, in New York.

Associated Press

day. Brady insists he knew nothing about it. In a July 28 decision upholding the suspension, Goodell heavily criticized Brady for having an aide destroy a cellphone containing nearly 10,000 text messages from a four-month stretch including the AFC championship game. He accused him of obstructing the NFL probe about a controversy

that represented "conduct detrimental to the integrity of, and public confidence in, the game of professional football." In court documents, the union's lawyers said the suspension was unfair and violated the labor contract and complained that it would cause irreparable harm to Brady by forcing him to miss games. □

The battle at the top with McIlroy, Spieth

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

SHEBOYGAN, Wis. (AP) —

Rory McIlroy faces a different set of questions from the last time he played, and he had answers for most of them.

His left ankle, with swelling the size of a tennis ball after he heard it snap while playing soccer with friends in early July, felt fine when he got off the plane and began preparing for the final major of the year. His game is good, and he sees no one reason why that will change when the PGA Championship starts Thursday. One other question was a little more tricky.

Who's the best player in the world?

McIlroy is No. 1 in the world ranking. He also has watched Jordan Spieth produce an inspiring year in golf by winning the Masters and U.S. Open, and then coming within one shot of a playoff at the British Open. Spieth has four wins this year, one more than McIlroy, though two of them are majors.

"If you were to go by this year, you would have to say Jordan," McIlroy said. "If you go over the last two years, I would say it's probably a toss-up between Jordan and myself. That's a hard one."

OK, we've got the rankings there, but it's all a matter of opinion."

And what was his opinion? "I'll tell you at the end of the week," McIlroy said with a smile.

The shine came off golf when Spieth's bid for the Grand Slam ended at St. Andrews. It returned when McIlroy began posting photos and videos last week that indicated he would be playing at Whis-



Jordan Spieth, right, shakes hands with Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, on the seventh tee during a practice round for the PGA Championship golf tournament Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2015, at Whistling Straits in Haven, Wis.

Associated Press

ting Straits, his first tournament since the U.S. Open. They face off Thursday afternoon, in the same group with British Open champion Zach Johnson. It will be the third time in the last eight majors that McIlroy and Spieth have played together the opening two rounds. It has never received attention like this.

"I think that's just what you guys want to see," Spieth said.

"I think he and I just want to go out there and try and win the tournament. We have to beat each other in order to do that, along with ... 155 other guys. It's great. We're all very happy to see him back. I'm excited to just share a couple days with Rory, and Zach as well."

"Hopefully, we can all get into contention, and it will certainly be exciting."

McIlroy, the defending champion, said he never targeted the PGA Championship as his return. His test came in Portugal last week when he played — and walked — 72 holes. There was no pain, no swelling. And he knew he was ready. "If I hadn't passed that test, I wouldn't have been here," he said.

For all the attention Spieth has earned with his four victories (along with playoff losses at the Colonial and Houston Open), McIlroy hasn't been a mere spectator to this sensational season. He has three victories, one of them a World Golf Championship, and

he had top 10s in both majors he played.

Still, there is a degree of uncertainty about his game. It will have been 53 days without competition when McIlroy tees it up Thursday. "Expectation levels are the same," McIlroy said. "I have played quite a number of rounds of golf. I've been practicing for over three weeks getting my game ready, getting my game sharp."

I feel like I'm playing well, hitting it well on the range. I've taken that onto the course in practice rounds and from there, it's being able to take it into tournament play with a card in my hand."

Expectations haven't changed for Spieth, either.

For a guy who just turned 22, he is regarded as a greater thinker.

At Chambers Bay, Spieth would find the worst part of the putting green to rap 6-footers before the weekend rounds to prepare him for some bad bounces. During his final nine holes of practice Wednesday, he was tossing balls in some quirky spots around the green, even down on the sandy bank of Lake Michigan.

He wants no surprises. He is prepared for a tough test. And he has the same attitude he had going into the British Open. This isn't a chance to make history. It's a chance to win a major.

At stake for Spieth is an opportunity to be the first player to sweep the three American majors in the same season. A victory would make him No. 1 in the world (provided McIlroy doesn't finish second) and make him the first \$11 million man on the PGA Tour.

His first goal, outlandish as it might seem, is to make the cut.

Spieth has never played the weekend in two previous trips to the PGA Championship. And his goal at the start of the year was to make the cut in all four majors and contend in at least one of them.

So one box has been checked in a major way.

"That first part of that goal has yet to be accomplished," he said with a smile. "So I've got some work to do these first two days and from there we'll adjust and work our butts off to try and get a third major, which would be a pretty cool place in history." □

Nishikori tops Andujar at Rogers Cup in Montreal

MONTREAL (AP) — Kei Nishikori beat Pablo Andujar 6-3, 6-3 on Wednesday in the ATP Tour's Rogers Cup in his first match since winning the Citi Open last week in Washington.

The fourth-seeded Nishikori, a finalist last year in the U.S. Open, earned his tour-

leading 27th hardcourt win of the season in the second-round match that was delayed nearly 90 minutes by rain.

"I'm going to try to go to the final again, but I know it's a new U.S. Open this year," the Japanese star said. "Just playing one match at

a time and trying to focus from first match, and see what I can do again."

At five foot 11, he's shorter than most of the best players of his generation.

"It's never easy," Nishikori said. "If you face big servers, like last week I played John (Isner) and (Marin)

Cilic, it's not much fun on the court."

"But I have a good return. I have good speed, too, that most of the big guys don't have. I think that's the fun things for tennis. You know, everybody's different. Even if you're small like me or David (Goffin)."

Goffin, seeded 13th, will be Nishikori's opponent in the round of 16 on Thursday.

Seventh-seeded Rafael Nadal, coming off a victory on clay at Hamburg two weeks ago, got his tournament started with a 7-6 (4), 6-3 victory over Sergiy Stakhovsky. □

Jackson's single in 10th gives Mariners 6-5 win over Orioles

The Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — SEATTLE (AP) —

Austin Jackson hit a bases-loaded single in the 10th inning to give the Seattle Mariners a 6-5 victory over the Baltimore Orioles on Tuesday night, marking the first time since baseball expanded to 30 clubs that all 15 home teams won on the same day.

Jackson's single off reliever T.J. McFarland (0-2) down the right-field line scored Logan Morrison from third and finished off the major league schedule for the night.

The last time home teams went undefeated on a day with more than one game was an 8-0 record on Aug. 28, 2008 — although road squads were 7-0 on April, 2, 2013, according to STATS. Arizona and Tampa Bay joined the majors in 1998, bringing the total to 30 teams.

STATS said the best performance by home teams had been 11-0, accomplished six times — three in the 1800s. The most recent occasion was Sept. 16, 1989.

INDIANS 5, YANKEES 4, 16 INNINGS

CLEVELAND (AP) — Michael Brantley's RBI single with one out in the 16th inning lifted Cleveland to a victory over skidding New York, which lost its fourth straight and had its lead in the AL East over Toronto trimmed to a half-game.

Brantley hit a hard single off Branden Pinder (0-2) that first baseman Mark Teixeira couldn't handle and easily scored Jose Ramirez from second base. Brantley's clutch hit ended the 5-hour, 4-minute game and triggered just the second walk-off winning celebration by the Indians this season. Austin Adams (2-0) worked a perfect inning and combined with seven other Cleveland pitchers to record 16 strikeouts.

The first four hitters in New York's lineup — Jacoby Ellsbury, Brett Gardner, Alex Rodriguez and Teixeira went a combined 1 for 25.

BLUE JAYS 4, ATHLETICS 2

TORONTO (AP) — Jose Bautista hit a solo home run, Drew Hutchison pitched seven strong innings and Toronto won its ninth straight game, beating Oakland.

Toronto starting pitchers have held the opposition to three earned runs or fewer in 15 consecutive games.

Hutchison (11-2) allowed two runs and four hits in seven-plus innings. The right-hander hadn't completed seven innings since a complete-game victory over the Chicago White Sox on May 25. Hutchison is 9-1 with a 2.68 ERA in 12 home starts and 2-1 with a 9.00 ERA in 11 road outings.

Roberto Osuna pitched the ninth for his 11th save.

ROYALS 6, TIGERS 1

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Lorenzo Cain went 4 for 4 with a home run and Yorlano Ventura pitched six scoreless innings as Kansas City defeated Detroit.

Cain, who raised his average to .316, led off the sixth with his 12th homer, a mammoth shot to left field. Mike Moustakas snapped an 0-for-18 drought with a homer to right field with Kendrys Morales aboard in the same inning.

Ventura (7-7), who is 3-1 since the All-Star break, limited the Tigers to two hits but walked a career-high six. He struck out eight, tying his season high.

Eric Hosmer hit a two-run homer in the first, giving him 21 RBIs in the opening inning.

TWINS 3, RANGERS 2

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Eduardo Escobar's two-out double in the ninth inning drove in the winning run, capping a late rally by Minnesota for a much-needed victory over Texas.

Joe Mauer and Miguel Sano tied the game with RBI doubles in the eighth, and Glen Perkins (1-3) pitched a scoreless ninth to pick up the win, just the seventh for the Twins in 23 games since the All-Star break.

Spencer Patton (1-1) quickly got the first two outs in the ninth, but he walked Kurt Suzuki before reaching the

bottom of the order with Escobar, who grounded a full-count fastball down the right-field line. Suzuki scored easily and the Twins were able to smile and dance.

WHITE SOX 3, ANGELS 0

CHICAGO (AP) — Carlos Rodon threw seven scoreless innings, Trayce Thompson hit his first career home run and Chicago beat Los Angeles.

Rodon (5-4) had struggled in his previous four starts, going 1-2 with a 9.33 ERA. He did considerably better Tuesday, striking out a career-high 11, allowing four hits and finishing seven innings for the first time for the White Sox, who have won the first two of the three-game series.

Hector Santiago (7-6) was making his first start at U.S. Cellular Field since being acquired by Los Angeles from the White Sox in a December 2013 three-team deal. He pitched 5 1/3 innings and gave up three runs and four hits while striking out four.

That wasn't enough to prevent the Angels from losing their eighth straight on the road, their longest streak since dropping nine in July 1993.

RAYS 2, BRAVES 0

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Erasmo Ramirez pitched efficiently into the eighth inning for his first win in more than a month, Kevin Kiermaier hit a two-run homer and Tampa Bay beat Atlanta.

Kiermaier's fifth home run of the season — and first since June 3 — came off Williams Perez one out after Asdrubal Cabrera's infield single. Perez (4-3) gave up four hits in his first career complete game. Ramirez (9-4) won for the first time in five starts since July 10. Xavier Cedenro got his first save.

MARLINS 5, RED SOX 4, 10 INNINGS

MIAMI (AP) — Dee Gordon tripled to lead off the 10th inning and scored on a walk-off base hit by Justin Bour to lift Miami to a come-from-behind win over Boston. □



Seattle Mariners' Austin Jackson, center, is mobbed by teammates after hitting in the game-winning run against the Baltimore Orioles in the 10th inning of a baseball game Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2015, in Seattle. The Mariners won 6-5.

Associated Press

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FRI 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:30 | 12:05
SAT 1:50 | 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:30 | 12:05
SUN & HOL 1:50 | 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:30

ED HELMS | CHRISTINA APPLEGATE

VACATION

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20
FRI 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SAT 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20

HENRY CAVILL | ARMIE HAMMER

THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E.

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 5:25 | 8:00
FRI 5:25 | 8:00 | 10:35
SAT 2:50 | 5:25 | 8:00 | 10:35
SUN & HOL 2:50 | 5:25 | 8:00

ALSO SHOWING!

MILES TELLER | KATE MARA

FANTASTIC 4

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 3:50 | 6:05 | 8:20
FRI 3:50 | 6:05 | 8:20 | 10:35
SAT 3:50 | 6:05 | 8:20 | 10:35
SUN & HOL 3:50 | 6:05 | 8:20

TOM CRUISE | JEREMY RENNER

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE ROGUE NATION

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 3:40 | 6:30 | 8:00 | 9:25
FRI 3:40 | 6:30 | 8:00 | 9:25 | 10:50
SAT 3:40 | 6:30 | 8:00 | 9:25 | 10:50
SUN & HOL 3:40 | 6:30 | 8:00 | 9:25

SANDRA BULLOCK | JON HAMM

MINIONS

MON-THURS 5:30
FRI 5:30
SAT 3:00 | 5:30
SUN & HOL 3:00 | 5:30

AMY SCHUMER | BILL HADER

TRAINWRECK

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 9:15
FRI 9:15 | 12:00
SAT 9:15 | 12:00
SUN & HOL 9:15

PAUL RUDD | MICHAEL DOUGLAS

ANT-MAN

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15
FRI 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15 | 11:45
SAT 1:55 | 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15 | 11:45
SUN & HOL 1:55 | 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15

ADAM SANDLER | KEVIN JAMES

PIXELS

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 4:35 | 6:55
FRI 4:35 | 6:55
SAT 2:15 | 4:35 | 6:55
SUN & HOL 2:15 | 4:35 | 6:55

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Cardinals edge Pirates on banner day for home teams

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Carlos Martinez was strongest at the end of his eight innings and Jason Heyward had two hits and two RBIs, helping St. Louis edge Pittsburgh in a matchup of the National League's top two teams.

Yadier Molina tied it with a sacrifice fly and rookie Stephen Piscotty singled in the go-ahead run on consecutive at-bats off Jeff Locke (6-7) in the fifth inning. Kolten Wong singled twice for his first multihit game of the month and Piscotty had three hits.

Trevor Rosenthal struck out the side in the ninth for his 34th save in 36 chances. The Cardinals lead the Pirates by six games in the NL Central and are 6-5 in the season series with seven of the games decided by one run and five in the final at-bat.

St. Louis is 72-40 overall, at 32 over .500 it matches the season's high water mark, and 41-16 at home — both major league bests.

CUBS 6, BREWERS 3

CHICAGO (AP) — Anthony Rizzo and Jorge Soler each drove in two runs, Dan Haren picked up his first victory for the Cubs and Chicago won for the 11th time in 12 games.

The Brewers, last in the NL Central, announced earlier in the day that Doug Melvin is moving into an advisory role after 13 years as general manager.

The Cubs, meanwhile, continue to roll.

Haren (8-7), acquired from Miami on July 31, pitched into the sixth.

Rizzo had two hits, including an RBI double, and drew a bases-loaded walk. He is 19 for 42 in his past 12 games.

Soler extended his hitting streak to 10, and Chicago took advantage of three errors along with some wild pitching on the way to yet another win.

DODGERS 5, NATIONALS 0

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Yasiel Puig drove in a career high-tying five runs with a homer and a triple, Zack Greinke pitched six sharp innings and Los Angeles



St. Louis Cardinals starting pitcher Carlos Martinez (18) reacts to striking out Pittsburgh Pirates' Jung Ho Kang to end the eighth inning in a baseball game, Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2015, in St. Louis.
Associated Press

defeated Washington to snap a season-worst four-game skid.

Greinke (12-2) allowed six hits, struck out six and walked four to remain unbeaten in his last 10 starts, going 7-0 in that span. He lowered his major league-leading ERA to 1.65.

Puig homered into the left-field pavilion in the fourth to score Andre Ethier, whose leadoff triple stood up after the Dodgers challenged the call. Replays showed third baseman Yunel Escobar didn't tag Ethier's leg before he reached the bag.

METS 4, ROCKIES 0

NEW YORK (AP) — Matt Harvey pitched four-hit ball for eight innings, Ruben Tejada had a go-ahead single in the sixth and New York beat Colorado for the eighth straight time at Citi

Field.

Juan Lagares had a two-run double in the eighth to help the Mets improve to 40-18 at home, matching last season's win total when they lost 41 at Citi Field.

Harvey (11-7) was dominant for a fourth straight start. He walked none for the third straight outing and struck out four, pitching to contact rather than overpowering the Rockies. He was lifted for pinch-hitter Curtis Granderson with the bases loaded in the eighth. Granderson got a gift RBI from Boone Logan for the second straight night. He was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded Monday. This time Logan walked Granderson, who did not start against Chris Rusin (3-5), a lefty.

Lagares, who has lost most of his playing time since the

arrival of Yoenis Cespedes, followed with the two-run double.

GIANTS 3, ASTROS 1

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Madison Bumgarner pitched a five-hitter with 12 strikeouts, Brandon Belt broke up a pitcher's duel with two solo homers, and San Francisco beat Houston.

Belt's homers, in the fourth and sixth innings, gave him 17 this season to match his career high also done in 2013. It was his third career multihomer game and second this year for the defending champion Giants, who bounced back at home after being swept by the Cubs in four games over the weekend at Wrigley Field.

Bumgarner (13-6) out-pitched fellow southpaw Scott Kazmir (6-7) in an

anticipated interleague matchup of top lefties for the World Series MVP's eighth career complete game and second this season. He didn't walk a batter in the 105-pitch gem.

Kazmir, who had allowed only one earned run for a 0.44 ERA in three starts since joining his hometown Astros in a July 23 trade from Oakland, committed two throwing errors while losing his second straight start.

PADRES 11, REDS 6

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Colin Rea pitched well into the sixth inning in his major league debut and Jedd Gyorko homered and drove in four runs as San Diego beat Cincinnati.

San Diego scored three runs in the first and five more in the second as they chased Cincinnati starter Michael Lorenzen. Lorenzen (3-8) gave up seven runs on seven hits in his shortest outing of the season.

Rea (1-0) picked up the win after allowing three runs on seven hits while striking out four and walking one.

Gyorko singled home two runs in the first and then belted a two-run homer off the second-deck facade in left field when Dylan Axelrod came in to replace Lorenzen in the second.

The Padres added three more runs in the third, giving Rea a comfortable advantage.

DIAMONDBACKS 13, PHILLIES 1

PHOENIX (AP) — David Peralta hit a grand slam in an 11-run second inning and tied a career high with five RBIs, leading the Arizona Diamondbacks to a victory over Philadelphia.

The 11 runs — all off starter David Buchanan — were the second-most scored in an inning in Diamondbacks' history. Peralta and Aaron Hill hit home runs and Jeremy Hellickson becoming the second pitcher in club history to collect two hits in one inning.

Hellickson (8-8) allowed an unearned run and seven hits and struck out six, improving to 6-1 in his last seven home starts. □

The ABCs of Google's new name Alphabet

BY MAE ANDERSON
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER
NEW YORK (AP) — What's in a name?

Most corporate naming experts say Google's decision to reorganize its businesses under a new holding company called "Alphabet" is close to letter perfect.

Because it is part of Google's corporate structure, Alphabet is not likely to become part of the lexicon like "Googling" did; it will mainly be used on Wall Street.

But the name Alphabet itself is simple and fits with Google's reputation as being "user friendly and elementary," says Tom Sepanski, naming and verbal identity director of branding firm Landor.

"Something about it is so fundamental," adds Sagi Haviv, a partner at identity firm Chermayeff & Geismar & Haviv. "It's a metaphor, just like any word can be created out of the alphabet, any concept can be realized."

The move by Google highlights how important corporate names are. Google joins a long line of companies that have created quirky, confusing and sometimes hard-to-pronounce company names. Creating a corporate name - or changing it - is a delicate balance. A good name must convey what the company stands for. It should be catchy, too.

But sometimes creative names backfire: When Kraft Foods spun off its snack food division and named it Mondelez in 2012, for instance, the reaction was not enthusiastic. The New York Post ran a headline that simply asked: "MONDEWHAAAT?"

Other times, boring names are met with criticism. When HP named its research division Agilent in 1999, some critics deemed it too lackluster.

NAME GAME

Most naming experts agree that Google struck the right balance with Alphabet.

"We think about a name as a first word in a story but not the whole story," said Nikolas Contis, global director of naming and branding firm Siegel+Gale.

"In each case, it's what's the simple idea expressed through surprising language."

Nikolas Contis, global director of naming and branding firm Siegel + Gale, said Alphabet ranks up there with Apple and Amazon and more recently, Uber. They infuse a simple word with key brand attributes.

Amazon's name, for example, helped convey the company's aggressive growth plans from an online bookseller into an e-commerce powerhouse that could expand into everything from drones to cloud services, Contis said.

"It was utterly simple and



This Thursday, Jan. 3, 2013, photo shows Google's headquarters in Mountain View, Calif.

Associated Press

very strategic," he said. More recently, the name of ride-sharing app Uber - which basically means a supreme version of something - helped people understand that the company was trying to reinvent the taxi business, Contis said.

"The best names explode conventions and create new reference points," he said.

ALPHA-BET

Google is staying mum about how they came up with the name, but CEO Larry Page explained key reasoning in a blog post.

"We liked the name Alphabet because it means a collection of letters that represent language, one of humanity's most important innovations, and is the core of how we index with

Google search," he wrote. "We also like that it means alpha-bet (Alpha is investment return above benchmark), which we strive for." Because the word is a commonly used word, Google likely invested heavily in it, i.e. buying licenses or companies with relevant trademarks, said Landor's Sepanski. Although some companies and brands can exist with the same name (think Dove soap and Dove chocolate), the simpler the name, the more likely that someone owns the trademark.

"It was probably a very expensive name," he said. "Most real-world names are taken. It's hard for me to believe they could register the trademark without a lot of money trading hands behind the scenes."

BUILDING BLOCKS

In the end, the name works because it fits in with Google's brand, said David Placek, founder of Lexicon Branding in Sausalito, California.

"Something as fun and simple as alphabet works for them," he said. "If Bank of America created a holding company called Alphabet, I think it would be met with good deal of skepticism." Google says the new holding company will provide an umbrella for its separate divisions like Nest, which makes Internet-connected home appliances, and Calico, which is conducting cutting-edge health research, more independence. The segmentation of Google divisions under the Alphabet banner helps the name fit too. □

Rdio enables saving of tracks from 500 live radio stations

RYAN NAKASHIMA

AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Rdio, the music subscription service backed by Skype co-founder Janus Friis, is partnering to bring simulcasts of 500 traditional radio stations to its app in the U.S. The move is the next step in its partnership with station owner Cumulus Media Inc., which took a 15 percent stake in Rdio in 2013.

By gaining access to data about what's playing on the Cumulus-owned sta-

tions, like KFOG in San Francisco or KLOS in Los Angeles, the app now allows users to pick favorite tracks and save them for later playback. Playback requires a subscription of at least \$4 a month, which caps offline listening at 25 songs. Rollout with other stations and in other countries is planned over the next year.

Apple Music provides a similar ability to pick favorites and save tracks played on its newly launched Beats1

online-only radio station, but Rdio offers a far wider selection of tower-based stations.

It's the latest push by a digital music company to gear its service to accommodate live audio with human DJs. San Francisco-based TuneIn has access to 100,000 traditional radio stations but no way to mark and save songs. Los Angeles-based Dash Radio provides dozens of online stations ad-free with popular hosts like DJ Skee and



This product image provided by Rdio shows the company's Live Radio feature within the Rdio app. Rdio, the music subscription service backed by Skype co-founder Janus Friis, is partnering to bring simulcasts of 500 traditional radio stations to its app in the U.S.

Associated Press

Snoop Dogg, but also no way to mark favorites. Rdio CEO Anthony Bay says "no one has done what

we're trying to do" — connecting live traditional radio feeds to a subscription music service. □

Global Blood Therapeutics latest biotech to double in IPO

NEW YORK (AP) — Blood disorder drug developer Global Blood Therapeutics shares more than doubled Wednesday as the company became the latest biotechnology company to get a powerful response from investors in its stock market debut. Global Blood Therapeutics Inc. says its treatment for

sickle cell disease might stop red blood cells from becoming misshapen, treating the disease rather than its symptoms. The drug, GBT440, is in early clinical testing: as of July 31, it had been given to 30 healthy volunteers and six people with sickle cell disease. The company wants to begin at least one mid-

stage trial of the drug in early 2016. The offering of 6 million shares priced at \$20 each, raising a greater-than-expected \$120 million. The stock surged to a closing price of \$43.11, a gain of 116 percent. FactSet says the company's market capitalization is now around \$3.5 billion, and it's

the third biotech to have its shares more than double in value on their first day of trading this year. Sickle cell disease is an inherited disorder that causes red blood cells to become misshapen and leads to blocked blood vessels, causing severe pain and eventually organ failure and death. The National Institutes of

Health says a stem cell transplant from a donor is the only cure for the condition, but most patients are too old for a transplant or don't can't find a good enough genetic match. One drug is approved to treat pain caused by sickle cell disease, and blood transfusions are also used as treatments. □

Wall Street wobbles, recovers after China currency move



Trader Anthony Riccio works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Another drop in China's currency shook markets around the world for a second straight day amid rising concerns about the world's second-largest economy. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Another drop in China's currency shook markets around the world for a second straight day amid rising concerns about the world's second-largest economy. Major markets in Europe slumped, while the U.S. stock market recovered from an early

drop to finish nearly flat. China's central bank let its currency fall again on Wednesday, following a surprising devaluation the day before. The move jolted markets in Europe, home to big companies that rely on China's growing middle class to buy their products. Major indexes in the U.S.

started the day with steep losses, as investors sold shares in Tiffany, YUM! Brands and other companies with significant sales in China. By the afternoon the worst of it was over, and the broader market spent the rest of the day climbing back to where it started. "Clearly, emotions are run-

ning high today," said Jack Ablin, chief investment officer at BMO Private Bank. Ablin said the market's sudden turns reflect the uncertainty surrounding China's actions. "It's really about a fear of the unknown," he said. The Standard & Poor's 500 index finished with a gain of 1.98 points, or 0.1 percent, at 2,086.05. The Dow Jones industrial average lost 0.33 of a point to close at 17,402.51, while the Nasdaq composite inched up 7.60 points, or 0.2 percent, to 5,044.39. China's government said its moves were attempts to make the country's exchange rate more responsive to the market. But a weaker yuan also benefits China by making exports cheaper to overseas customers. Many investors considered the devaluation a sign that China's economy is in worse shape than official reports suggest. "There's a lot of uncertainty right now," said David Joy, chief market strategist for Ameriprise Financial. "What does this tell

us about how weak their economy is? And is this going to spread their weakness to other countries?" The news from China battered European markets for a second day running. Germany's DAX dropped 3.3 percent, France's CAC 40 dropped 3.4 percent, while Britain's FTSE 100 lost 1.4 percent. In Asia, Japan's Nikkei 225 fell 1.6 percent and Australia's S&P/ASX 200 fell 1.7 percent. Hong Kong's Hang Seng lost 2.4 percent, and the Shanghai Composite Index lost 1.1 percent. Back in the U.S., Alibaba Group slumped after posting sales that fell short of Wall Street's high expectations, even though first-quarter income for China's top Internet retailer more than doubled. Alibaba dropped \$3.96, or 5.1 percent, to \$73.38. Macy's reported a drop in quarterly profits and sales on Wednesday as the department-store chain's results were hobbled by delayed deliveries and a strong dollar. □

American Apparel falls after saying it is low on financing

NEW YORK (AP) — Already facing falling sales and lawsuits from its ousted founder, shares of American Apparel plunged further Wednesday after the retailer said it doesn't have enough financing to keep operating for the next year, meaning it will need to raise money or find new financing. The Los Angeles company said it's also discussing options like refinancing, new

capital-raising moves, amendments or restructuring its debt and other financial obligations. It is not clear if any of those moves will come to pass, and American Apparel warned that investors could suffer big losses on their investments. American Apparel also says it may be out of compliance with the terms of its revolving credit facility and is in talks with lender

Capital One about changing the terms of that credit facility. Its shares fell 7 cents to 14 cents in midday trading. Its market capitalization stands at about \$24 million, according to FactSet. American Apparel Inc. has lost money every year since 2010, with revenue wilting as competition from fast-fashion retailers has increased. The company is being sued by founder and

ex-CEO Dov Charney, who was fired in December following allegations that he had violated the company's sexual harassment policy. Charney denies those charges. Charney has also filed a \$30 million lawsuit against Standard General, one of the company's biggest shareholders, for defamation. The company said in July that it would revamp its fall clothing line and close

some stores to cut costs, and it warned it might not have enough financing for the next year. In a filing Tuesday with the Securities and Exchange Commission, American Apparel confirmed that is the case. The company also said Tuesday that it couldn't file its second-quarter report on time because management is focused on talks with Capital One and other financial stakeholders. □

Kraft Heinz to cut 2,500 jobs in US, Canada

CANDICE CHOI

AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Kraft Heinz says it is cutting about 2,500 jobs as part of its plan to slash costs after the food companies combined. Spokesman Michael Mulen says affected workers are in the U.S. and Canada and were to be notified in person. About 700 of the cuts were coming in Northfield, Illinois, where Kraft had been headquartered. The company would not specify where other cuts were taking place but said that all the jobs were salaried. It said none of the job cuts involved factory workers.

The Kraft Heinz Co. said it had a total of around 46,600 employees before the cuts. That included about 1,900 in Northfield.

The job cuts are not surprising, given the reputation of the company's management on Wall Street.

The combination of Pittsburgh-based Heinz and Kraft earlier this year was engineered by Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway and Brazilian investment firm 3G Capital, which has become known for its tight cost controls.

Bernardo Hees — a 3G partner — is CEO of the merged Kraft Heinz.

Hees had already overseen cost-cutting at Heinz since the ketchup maker was taken over in 2013 in a prior partnership between 3G and Berkshire. That means the cuts announced Wednesday mostly affect people on the Kraft side of the business.

Together, the two U.S. food giants own brands including Jell-O, Heinz baked beans and Velveeta that are facing sales challenges amid changing tastes. Their combination was nevertheless seen as attractive because of the opportunity to combine functions like manufacturing and distribution.

Executives say they expect to save \$1.5 billion in annual costs by 2017. □

Alibaba's 1Q sales short of expectations, shares fall

MAE ANDERSON

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — With sales growth slowing in China, Alibaba is looking across its borders to give sales a boost.

The Chinese e-commerce powerhouse reported first-quarter net income more than doubled on strong growth across its online and mobile platforms.

Though revenue jumped 28 percent, the growth fell short of Wall Street expectations and shares fell 6 percent in early trading.

Conlumino analyst Neil Saunders pointed out that revenue growth over the past fiscal year was 39 percent, and it reached 59 percent the year before that.

"This is not to infer criticism of Alibaba, but it does suggest that its core Chinese business has now reached a level of maturity that will dampen future growth rates," Saunders wrote.

Alibaba went public in the U.S. in September and investors, seeking to tap into the rapidly growing Chinese middle-class, scrambled to buy shares. Alibaba's e-commerce platforms, including Taobao and Tmall, make up 80 percent of Chinese e-commerce.

But China's growth has

slowed and Beijing devalued the yuan this week to calm domestic markets that have become extremely volatile. But that roiled global markets and the Hang Seng index tum-

"In recent months, we have made substantial progress in providing international access to Chinese consumers shopping on marketplaces," said CEO Daniel Zhang in a call

Other U.S. retailers on Tmall Global include Costco, Juicy Couture, Gap, Vitamin Shoppe, Nature's Bounty, Mead Johnson and Thermos.

First-quarter net income



People walk past an advertising billboard showing the mobile app of Alibaba's Taobao consumer-to-consumer site at a subway station in Beijing. Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. reported quarterly financial results before the market opened on Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015.

(AP Photo/Vincent Thian)

bled 2.4 percent Wednesday. The index has slid 13 percent over the past three months.

Alibaba has begun looking abroad to spur sales, both from U.S. companies selling goods on its platforms in China and Chinese sellers reaching international customers.

with analysts. "More and more brands believe our Tmall platform is the only e-commerce channel to develop their China business."

The company said Wednesday that Macy's will launch a store on Alibaba's Tmall Global platform later this year.

rose to 12.34 million Chinese yuan, or 11.92 yuan (\$1.92) per share. Excluding one-time items, net income was 59 cents per share. That beat analyst expectations of 56 cents per share according to FactSet.

Annual active buyers rose 32 percent to 367 million. □

Citizens Bank returning \$14 million to customers

MARCY GORDON

AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Citizens Bank is returning \$14 million to individual and business customers in an agreement with federal regulators for failing to credit customers the full amounts of their deposits.

The bank also was fined a total of \$20.5 million by three federal agencies. Altogether, customers with hundreds of thousands of checking and savings accounts were shorted millions of dollars over six years starting in 2008, the regulators said Wednesday. The action, the first of its kind, was brought by the Consumer Financial Protection

Bureau, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. and the Treasury Department's Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

Citizens Bank pocketed the difference in cases where the totals marked on deposit slips didn't match the actual money deposited, or when the bank's scanners misread deposit slips or checks, the regulators said.

Citizens Financial Group Inc., among the 20 largest U.S. banks with about \$137 billion in assets and \$100 billion in deposits, is based in Providence, Rhode Island. Britain's Royal Bank of Scotland currently owns around 20 percent of Citi-

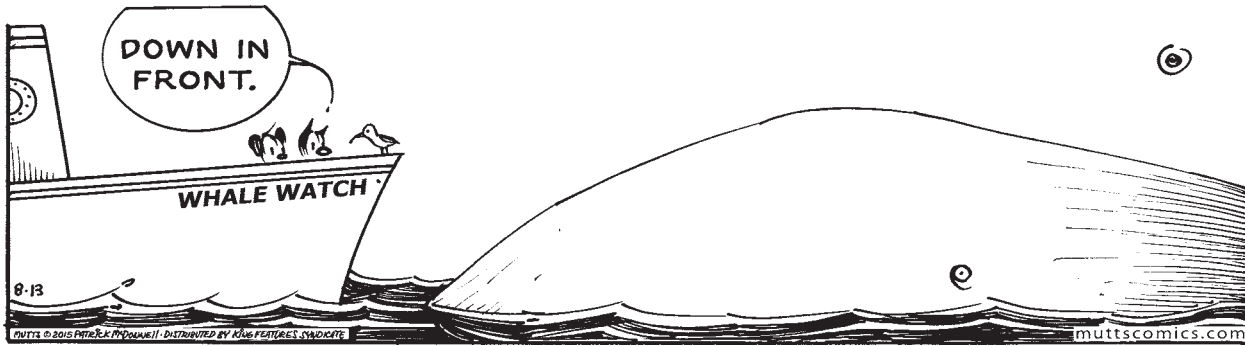
zens and plans to have completely divested it by the end of next year.

The agencies said Citizens violated the prohibition against unfair and deceptive practices in the 2010 law that overhauled regulation of banks and Wall Street following the financial crisis. They said the bank failed to act to correct the deposit discrepancies if they fell below a certain amount (\$50 from January 2008 to September 2012 and \$25 from September 2012 to November 2013). While some customers benefited from errors in their favor, that doesn't change the significance of the violations, the regula-

tors said.

CFPB Director Richard Cordray called the bank's conduct "shoddy practices that deprived consumers of money that was rightfully theirs when they made deposits." When a bank "violates the basic tenet of what it means to offer a deposit account — that is, to receive and keep safe the customer's funds — it imbues a deep sense of mistrust," Cordray told reporters in a conference call. Citizens said in a statement that deposits credited to customers who benefited from the errors were roughly equal to shorted deposits during the six-year period. □

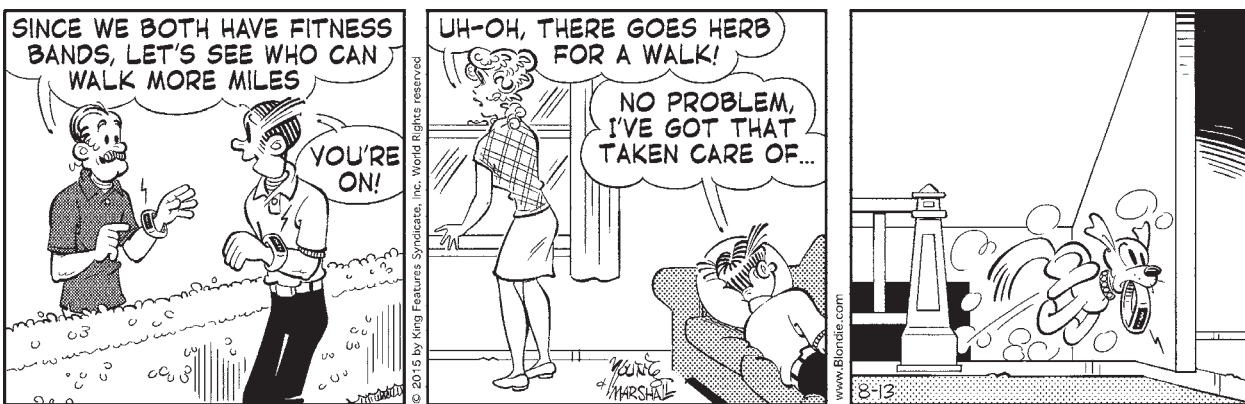
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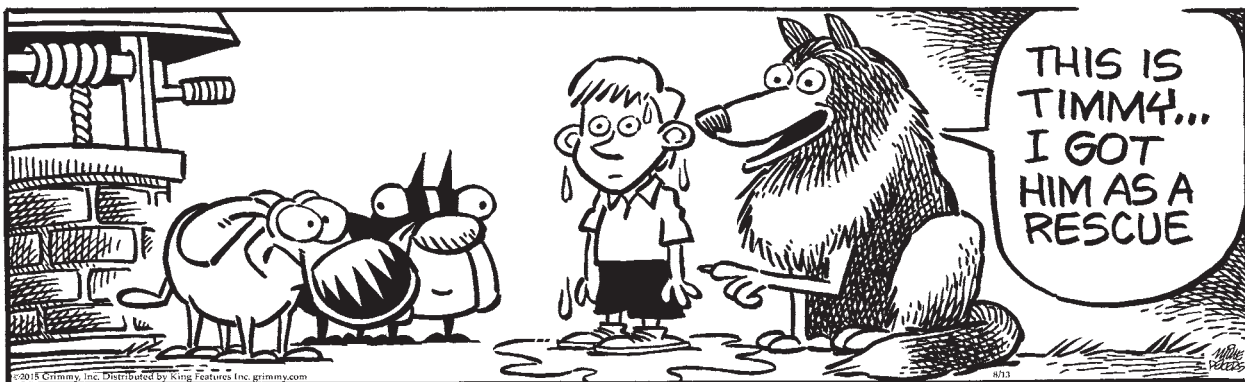
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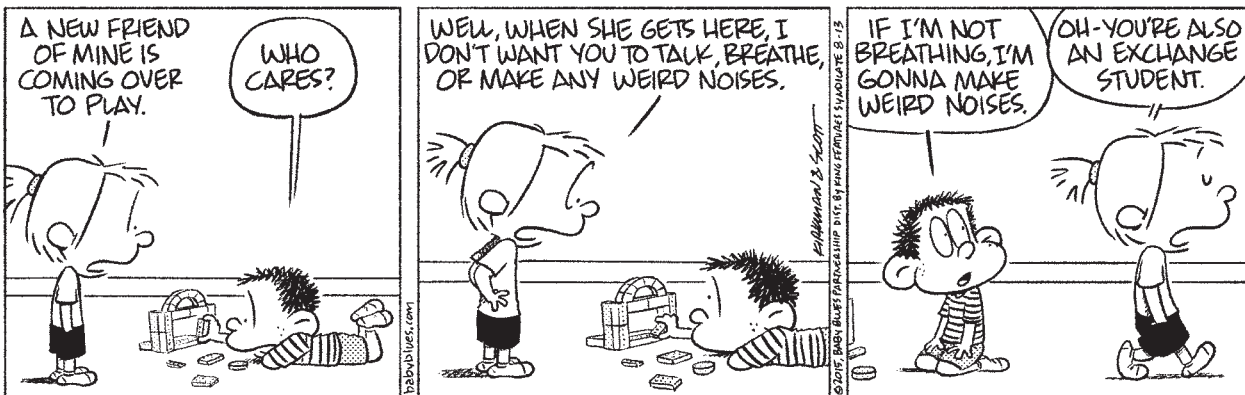
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	7						3	
6				1				5
			2	9				
			1		5	8		
	4	9				2	7	
		2	7		9			
				5	3			
2				8				6
	8						9	

Difficulty Level ★★★

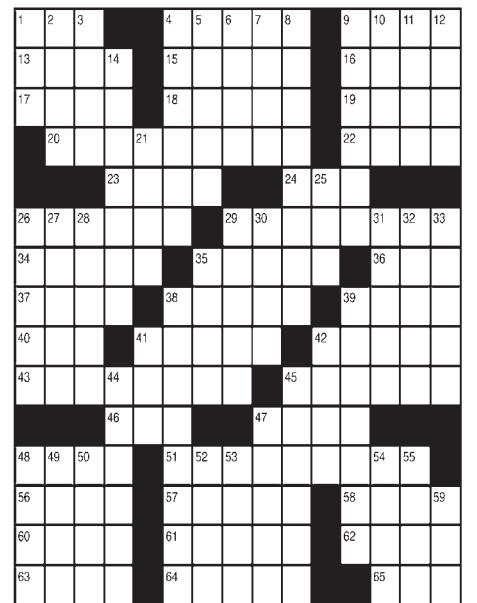
8/13

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

2	8	9	3	6	7	4	1	5
3	4	5	1	2	8	7	6	9
1	6	7	4	9	5	3	2	8
6	5	1	9	7	3	2	8	4
8	3	2	5	4	6	9	7	1
7	9	4	8	1	2	6	5	3
9	2	3	7	5	1	8	4	6
5	7	8	6	3	4	1	9	2
4	1	6	2	8	9	5	3	7

ACROSS

- 1 Spring month
- 4 Name tag
- 9 Nauseated
- 13 Has debts
- 15 House of snow
- 16 Muscle cramp
- 17 Smile broadly
- 18 Steam bath
- 19 ___to; shed
- 20 Most threadbare
- 22 ___to; increases
- 23 Before long
- 24 Pork product
- 26 "Little ___ Annie"
- 29 Glossiest
- 34 Beauty marks
- 35 Tasteless
- 36 "I ___ Rock"; hit song for Simon & Garfunkel
- 37 Black-___ peas
- 38 ___away party; farewell bash
- 39 Brief haircut
- 40 Capture
- 41 Tiny weights
- 42 Actress Midler
- 43 Pullman cars
- 45 Goes quickly
- 46 Galloped
- 47 Main point; crux
- 48 Horse rider's word for "Stop!"
- 51 Nation of South America
- 56 Fumbler's word
- 57 Shows boldness
- 58 Make a crease
- 60 Patella's place
- 61 Jagged
- 62 Meditative exercise
- 63 ___ away; dismiss
- 64 Stitched
- 65 Certain vote



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/13/15

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

PLUSH	BRAD	AJAR
AORTA	RENE	SODA
INNER	EADS	SNAG
DESERTED	ICEAGE	
	DIED	BRUSHES
WORSEN	DUELS	
RHO	TOTEM	POEMS
AILS	RAMPS	RAIL
POLAR	LOYAL	SKI
	LEMON	GIFTED
FIFTEEN	WAGE	
ADRIFT	MISHMASH	
BEAN	APED	TABLE
LANE	LINE	ELLEN
ELKS	STUN	NEEDS

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8/13/15

- 4 Capital of Portugal
- 5 Once more
- 6 Unhappy
- 7 Long periods
- 8 Detesting
- 9 Deli purchase
- 10 Frosted
- 11 African nation
- 12 Mattel's boy dolls
- 14 Drunk
- 21 Crushing snakes
- 25 Most common conjunction
- 26 Foreboding signs
- 27 Fit for a king
- 28 USNA freshman
- 29 ___ down; diets successfully
- 30 ___ Christian Andersen
- 31 Our planet
- 32 Hit hard
- 33 Makes gentle
- 35 Wild hog
- 38 Hand ___; small bombs
- 39 Be a witness in court
- 41 Student's avg.
- 42 Bosom
- 44 Wiped away
- 45 Washed off soapsuds
- 47 Waterbirds
- 48 Stir-fry pans
- 49 Sharpen
- 50 Unlock
- 52 Seldom seen
- 53 Get bigger
- 54 Midday
- 55 Seaweed
- 59 Doris or Dennis

DOWN

- 1 Unruly crowd
- 2 Stuns; makes speechless
- 3 Slangy affirmative

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U.S. medical researchers say fetal tissue remains essential

COLLIN BINKLEY
CARLA K. JOHNSON
Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — The furor on Capitol Hill over a leading U.S. pro-choice group has stoked a debate about the use of tissue from aborted fetuses in medical research, but U.S. scientists have been using such cells for decades to develop vaccines and seek treatments for a host of ailments, from vision loss and neurological disorders to cancer and AIDS.

Anti-abortion activists set off the uproar by releasing undercover videos of Planned Parenthood officials that raised questions of whether the organization was profiting from the sale of fetal tissue. Planned Parenthood, which provides reproductive health as well as contraception and abortion services, has denied making any profit and said it charges fees solely to cover its costs. University laboratories that buy such cells strongly defend their research, saying tissue that would otherwise be thrown out has played a vital role in lifesaving medical advances and holds great potential for further breakthroughs.

Fetal cells are considered ideal because they divide rapidly, adapt to new environments easily and are less susceptible to rejection than adult cells when transplanted.

"If researchers are unable to work with fetal tissue, there is a huge list of diseases for which researchers would move much more slowly, rather than quickly, to find their cause and how they can be cured," Stanford University spokeswoman Lisa Lapin said in an email.

From 2011 through 2014 alone, 97 research institu-

tions — mostly universities and hospitals — received a total of \$280 million in federal grants for fetal tissue research from the National Institutes of Health. A few institutions have consis-

cause the issue is so highly charged. The Planned Parenthood uproar led to a failed attempt by Republicans to strip the organization of federal funding. Researchers use fetal tis-

techniques are still being refined, and some fields are likely to remain reliant on fetal tissue, such as the study of fetal development.

Vaccines have been one

been for those cells."

Fetal tissue was "absolutely critical" to the development of a potential Ebola vaccine that has shown promise, said Dr. Carrie Wolinetz, an associate director at NIH, which last year handed out \$76 million for work involving fetal tissue, or 0.2 percent of the agency's research budget.

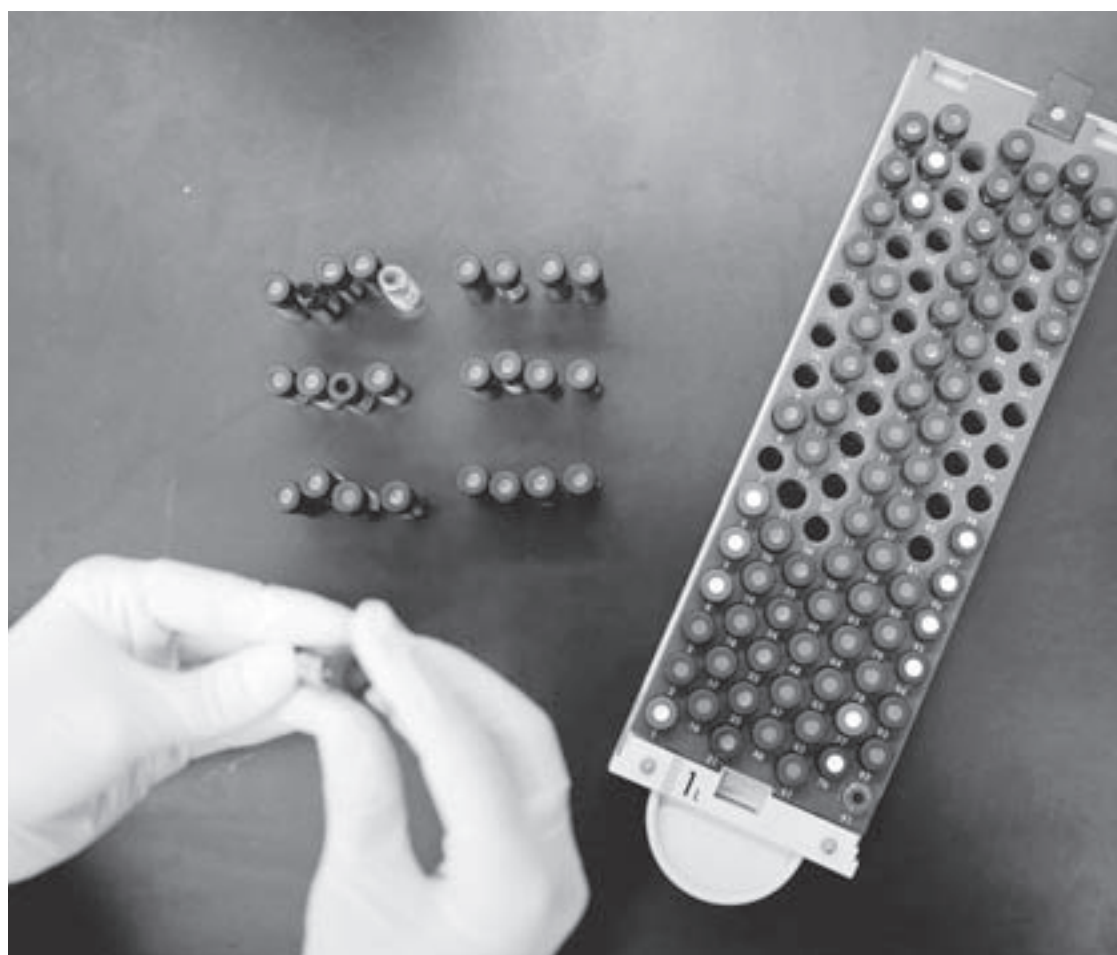
Scientists are also using fetal tissue to try to identify substances in adults that could be early warning signs of cancer, said Dr. Akhilesh Pandey, a molecular biologist at Johns Hopkins University.

Experts at MIT and other research centers use fetal tissue to implant the human immune system into mice, as a way to study diseases without employing people as test subjects. They add tumors to study the immune system's response, then test cancer treatments out on the mice.

"This eventually will provide a benefit to society," said Jianzhu Chen, an immunology professor and researcher at MIT.

At Stanford, fetal tissue has been used to study Huntington's disease, "bubble boy disease" and juvenile diabetes. Fetal brain cells are now being used there in research on autism and schizophrenia.

After the release of the undercover videos, Colorado State University conducted an ethics review and suspended its dealings with one vendor. But it is pressing ahead with its HIV research with fetal tissue. "Our position is this research has such tremendous value in driving discoveries that could be done no other way," said Alan Rudolph, university vice president of research. □



In this Aug. 10, 2015, photo, Christine Jelinek, a postdoctoral fellow at Johns Hopkins University, works alongside a tray of vials containing cerebral spinal fluid in Baltimore.

Associated Press

tently gotten large shares of that money, including Yale, the University of California and Massachusetts General Hospital, which is affiliated with Harvard.

The U.S. government prohibits the sale of fetal tissue for profit and requires separation between researchers and the women who donate fetuses. Some schools go further, requiring written consent from donors.

Many major universities declined to make scientists available for interviews about their fetal tissue work, saying they fear for the researchers' safety be-

sue to understand cell biology and human development. Others use it to look for treatments for AIDS. Research on spinal cord injuries and eyesight-robbing macular degeneration involves transplanting fetal cells into patients. European researchers recently began putting fetal tissue into patients' brains to try to treat Parkinson's, a strategy that previously had mixed results.

Some scientists are looking for alternatives to fetal tissue, such as using adult cells that have been "re-programmed" to their earlier forms. But those

of the chief public benefits of fetal tissue research. Vaccines for hepatitis A, German measles, chickenpox and rabies, for example, were developed using cell lines grown from tissue from two elective abortions, one in England and one in Sweden, that were performed in the 1960s.

German measles, also known as rubella, "caused 5,000 spontaneous abortions a year prior to the vaccine," said Dr. Paul Offit, an infectious-disease specialist at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. "We wouldn't have saved all those lives had it not

Steve Martin to be honored at Bluegrass Awards

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Movie star, comedian and Grammy-winning musician Steve Martin will be honored by the International Bluegrass Music Association with a distinguished achievement award.

The association on Wednesday announced special awards recipients and nominees for the International Bluegrass Music Awards, which will be presented on Oct. 1 in Raleigh, North Carolina.

The 69-year-old banjo player has become a bluegrass ambassador by introducing fans of his film and television work to the genre through his performances and albums with Edie Brickell and the Steep Canyon Rangers.

The supergroup Earls of Leicester leads with five



In this Oct. 20, 2012 file photo, Steve Martin performs at the Shoreline Amphitheatre in Mountain View, Calif.

Associated Press

nominations, including entertainer of the year, for their tribute to legendary artists Lester Flatts and Earl Scruggs. Other nominees for entertainer of the year are Balsam Range, Hot Rize, The Gibson Brothers and The Del McCoury Band. □

'Orange is the New Black' actress drops a spoiler (maybe)

Associated Press
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Laura Prepon's giving away the cliffhanger from the third season finale of "Orange is the New Black" — or is she? Spoiler alert: Prepon's character Alex Vause is returning to the Netflix series next season. But beyond that, well, fans will just need to hop on board the streaming train when the fourth season hits in 2016.

"We can't really say too much," Prepon said Tuesday at a New York screening of the season finale. "She's dealing with a lot this year."

The drug-dealing Litchfield Penitentiary inmate and complicated lover of the show's lead character Piper Chapman (played by Taylor Schilling), is last seen facing down a drug business associate in the third season's finale. It's unknown whether Vause will make it out alive or if she



Actress Laura Prepon attends the "Orange Is the New Black" NYC Screening at DGA Theater on Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2015, in New York.

Associated Press

is going to portray herself in the prison show's many flashbacks.

Prepon, who dropped an earlier hint that Vause would be back in a June Instagram post, said Vause being paranoid and emotional during the third season allowed fans to see another side of her. □

FDA issues warning over Kim Kardashian's drug promotions

MATTHEW PERRONE

AP Health Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reality TV star Kim Kardashian is no stranger to criticism, having spent the better part of the last decade in the public eye. But she's probably never faced negative publicity like this before: The Food and Drug Administration says Kardashian's social media posts violate federal drug-promotion rules.

Kardashian recently began promoting a prescription pill to treat morning sickness through her social media accounts. Such endorsement deals are relatively common for celebrities. In posts to Instagram and Facebook earlier this month Kardashian talks about her struggles with nausea due to pregnancy. "I tried changing things about my lifestyle, like my diet, but nothing helped, so I talked to my doctor," the post states. "He prescribed me #Diclegis, and I felt a lot better and most importantly, it's been studied and there was no increased risk to the baby." Kardashian has over 42 million followers on Instagram and 25 million on Facebook.

The posts link to a company website that includes the FDA-approved labeling information.

Kardashian is five months pregnant with her second child, a boy, with husband



In this June 24, 2015 file photo, American television personality Kim Kardashian poses for photographers as she attends the Cannes Lions 2015 in Cannes, southern France.

Associated Press

Kanye West.

But FDA regulators say the posts violate rules for promoting drugs because they don't mention side effects of Diclegis, which include sleepiness that can make it dangerous to drive or perform other activities that require mental alertness. The drug label warns that Diclegis should not be combined with alcohol or other medications that cause drowsiness, such as sleeping aids or certain pain relievers.

FDA regulations require manufacturers to balance benefit claims with information about drugs' risks, even when space is limited.

The posts also fail to mention that Diclegis is not approved for women with a form of prolonged vomiting that causes dehydration, the FDA notes.

The FDA posted its warning

letter online Tuesday, addressed to the CEO of Canadian drugmaker Duchesnay Inc., which markets the drug. The letter notes that the privately held company received a similar warning in 2013 for omitting risk information from a letter to doctors.

FDA regulators are "concerned that Duchesnay is continuing to promote Diclegis in a violative manner," states the letter dated Aug. 7.

The agency calls on the company to remove the social media posts immediately and outline a plan for preventing future violations by Aug. 21.

Duchesnay said in a statement it "will take quick action in responding to the FDA's letter and immediately and effectively address any issues." The company is based in Blainville, Quebec. □

Ryan Seacrest to host NBC's late-night coverage at Olympics



In this May 10, 2014 file photo, Ryan Seacrest arrives at Wango Tango in Carson, Calif.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Ryan Seacrest will host NBC's

late-night coverage during the 2016 Olympics.

The network said Wednesday that the "American Idol" host would take over the late-night role in Rio. He was a correspondent for NBC during the 2012 London Games.

Bob Costas handled both late-night and prime-time hosting duties during last year's Winter Olympics, made possible by the time difference in Sochi. Mary

Carillo had hosted the late-night coverage the previous three Olympics.

Along with hosting "American Idol" on Fox, Seacrest is host and executive producer of ABC's "Dick Clark's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest" and has an agreement with NBCUniversal that includes serving as host and producer of the "E! Live from the Red Carpet" awards programs. □

Acts find unique ways to sell music, reach fans on Twitter



JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr.
Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — From Kanye West to Taylor Swift to Rihanna, more and more musicians are debuting audio, photo and video content on Twitter to boost marketing efforts without spending big bucks. The social networking platform has also been used by The Rolling Stones and Diana Ross, who recently created accounts to connect with millennials. West unveiled his new album title on Twitter in February. In the same month, Lady Gaga used Twitter's new video product tool to announce her role on the upcoming season of FX's "American Horror Story: Hotel." And other musicians are using the social media service to sell merchandise.

THE BEAT GOES ON

In this March 5, 2009 file photo, singer Michael Jackson announces that he is set to play ten live concerts in London. Jackson, who died in 2009, keeps his 1.8 million followers informed with new music and videos. Associated Press

From Michael Jackson to R&B singer Aaliyah, the musical spirit of deceased acts has found life on Twitter, thanks to estate owners and record labels keeping followers of the late performers informed through verified accounts. The 1.8 million people who follow Jackson, who died in 2009, are constantly being updated with new music and videos related to the pop icon. In May, Epic Records and Michael Jackson's estate premiered the singer's "A Place With No Name" on Twitter. The tweet has garnered more than 2.7 million views, and Jackson's account gained 136,000 followers in a day. A spokesperson said Jackson's es-

tate looks for different ways to attract new fans. "Twitter's team was very enthusiastic about the new material, and their methodology and ability to



communicate worldwide made the release of new Michael Jackson material a global, groundbreaking event, which is befitting the King of Pop," the spokesperson said in an email.

BUY NOW

In this June 27, 2015 file photo, Canadian singer Drake at the Wireless festival in Finsbury Park, in London. Associated Press

Drake and Kendrick Lamar both announced their latest projects on Twitter earlier this year using the Buy Now feature to drive clicks to their iTunes links. The feature was the only option for purchasing any of their songs or album on that particular day. Both rappers found success in their unexpected releases. Drake's "If You're Reading This It's Too Late" received more than 1.5 million mentions within a 24-hour period, helping him sell around 500,000

units. Lamar's announcement drove more than 285,000 clicks to his iTunes link.

Other artists such as girl group Fifth Harmony and up-and-comer MOD SUN, whose sound blends rap and rock, have also taken advantage of the feature.

Fifth Harmony sold out of merchandise during the band's appearance at the Kids' Choice Awards. Each group member tweeted music and merchandise bundle offers, then retweeted their posts on the group's main handle, which has 2.3 million followers.

"This is a place where they can talk with their fans and interact with them. Back in the day, something like this wasn't available. Now you know what your favorite stars are doing," said Lisa Kasha, senior director of digital and social media

with a real-time listening party and SoundCloud audio card.

MOD SUN showcased merchandise, releasing four products through a Twitter flash sale and eventually sold out of stock.

ALBUM LAUNCH CAMPAIGN

In this March 4, 2015 file photo, singer-songwriter Kelly Clarkson poses for a portrait in promotion of her album "Piece by Piece" in New York. Associated Press

Kelly Clarkson and RCA Records executed a two-month campaign on Twitter to create buzz in advance of her recent album, "Piece by Piece."

Clarkson built momentum throughout the campaign, unveiling a variety of teasers to her 10 million followers. In January, she revealed the cover art for her single "#Heart-BeatSong" in a photo post, then tweeted a teaser video and announced the release date of the song before holding a question-and-answer session to talk about the album, which was released in February.

Clarkson live-tweeted during the Grammy Awards, and her management tweeted out pre-order information for her album. During the campaign, she garnered more than 193,000 followers and the campaign tweets were viewed more than 37 million times.

John Fleckenstein, RCA's executive vice president, said the singer's outgoing and witty personality helped drive the campaign.

"It was a great win for us," Fleckenstein said. "We would definitely do this again. For the artists who are active on Twitter, we would do this with them." □



The Goldilocks syndrome persists for choosing movie seats

LEANNE ITALIE

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Too close! Too far back! Middle? No way, aisle.

When it comes to where you plant yourself in a movie theater, you're either a seat-specific Goldilocks or you're with one. And if, by some miracle, you and your date, spouse, friend or gang from work DO agree on where to sit, chances are you've been privy to an angsty pre-show spat or two among the seat-selecting stressed. Are movie-seat beefs legit, in the scheme of not-hugely-important problems, or have we lost our minds to the point where not even assigned seating can save us?

"My best friend has very strict rules on movie theater seating and it drives me insane," said Gina Mazzone in Bloomfield, New Jersey. "Originally, she would make us change our seats multiple times until she was happy."

But wait. Said best friend, Caitlin Quagliato, has her reasons.

"I'm just super picky. I try to avoid distractions. I don't like to sit too close because my neck strains. I don't like to sit too far away because I can't see," she said. "It drives my sister crazy, too. I get headaches and nobody wants to deal with me during migraines. That could be what started it." The two 24-year-olds who met in college about four years ago remain regular movie companions, but they now stick mostly to a theater that allows for assigned seating, though — Mazzone said — "she still complains."

Anthony Pomes, 43, in the Suffolk County hamlet of East Northport, New York, doesn't complain so much as feel very, very passionately about the subject. And he doesn't routinely have the benefit of assigned seating.

It's all about "maximum movie-ness," he said, noting in particular the importance of center screen viewing and sound balance for digital systems



This July 20, 2012 file photo shows a wide awake crowd watching the premier of "The Dark Knight Rises" inside the Liberty Science Center IMAX theater in Jersey City, N.J.

Movie Seating-The Sweet Spot

Associated Press

used in theaters today.

So where is his sweet spot? "For at least the past 15 to 20 years, I have very persistently insisted that those with whom I see movies in a theater join me smack dab in the middle of the aisle somewhere between 10, but no more than 13, rows away from the movie screen," Pomes said.

Irene Myers, 34, in Philadelphia isn't having it. She goes to a movie most weeks, about 60 percent of the time by herself to avoid the "where-are-we-sitting conversation."

It's all about control when grouped with a huge theater full of strangers, she surmised.

Movie seating, to a film buff like Pomes, is "as near to a religion as Scorsese's 'Last Temptation,'" he said, regularly dragging his wife and 18-year-old twins to theaters at least an hour ahead of show time.

"When we don't get the good seats we want, the whole feng shui is just blown," he said. "To me it's art. I would never go to a museum gallery and not look at everything."

Does this, er, fever have an origin?

"It's some kind of weird hybrid of, like, elitism and sort of trying to get home again, because I do regard film as primal," Pomes

said. "My older brother took me to see 'Star Wars' in 1977. I was 5 or 6. It has that shot of that ship that just keeps going over your head. We were between rows 10 and 13. I remember that specifically." There are other things that make Pomes a "bit batty" about movie seating.

"I don't like there to be lights coming in from another room that you see on the screen. It's ritualistic and it should be. I mean Scorsese once talked about it being like how he felt when he was a kid in church. But my wife does think sometimes that I go a little beyond," he said.

Afam Onyema, 36, in Los Angeles, has other things on his mind. He's a big guy, a former college linebacker, with a wee movie-going bathroom issue. He can't make it through one without a pit stop mid-movie and finds himself in seating negotiations all the time.

The seats he seeks from friends and surreptitiously angles for with dates are on an aisle or front row, second tier behind the rail in theaters that have raised sections separated by a wide walking aisle.

"It's embarrassing. My friends will say, 'It's only two hours' and I'm, like, 'I know. I'm not doing it on

purpose! This way I can just hop over the rail without kicking popcorn all over the floor or stepping on some old person's shoes." But inevitable conflicts arise for prime real estate-seeking Onyema, who goes to three or four mov-

ies a month.

"There are some friends who want to be in the middle and they worry that if we're on the aisle people are going to be bothering us to get out. It's definitely a give and take," he said. "If it's 'Lord of the Rings' length or something like that, I'm going to push to be on the aisle or the railing. If it's a shorter movie, I'll say 'OK, I'll let you have this one.'"

Daniel Collins and his wife don't get to the movies that frequently, but with his long legs, the distinct possibility of a work call he can't miss and some prostate issues at 52, he's an aisle man. Getting there early enough to nab a good one isn't fun.

"My wife, who should be teaching master's courses in procrastination, can be a challenge to get out the door," said Collin, in suburban Baltimore. "But she's working hard at improving, and I'm working hard at not being so, 'If we're not 15 minutes early we're late.'" □

Syfy developing drama series based on 'Gateway' novel

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)

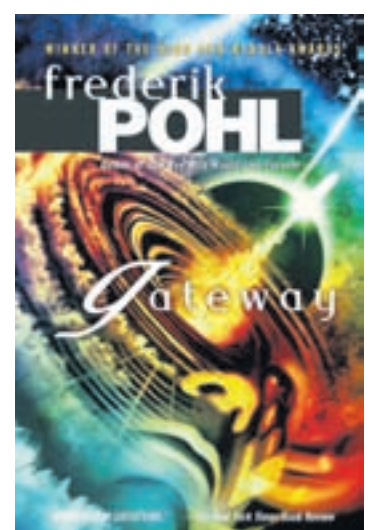
— The Syfy channel is developing a drama series based on Frederik Pohl's novel "Gateway."

In "Gateway," the discovery of an asteroid containing an alien race's abandoned spaceship prompts a gold rush for the advanced technology, Syfy said Wednesday.

The hour-long series will be produced by David Eick ("Battlestar Galactica") and Josh Pate ("Falling Skies"), the channel told a TV critics' meeting.

"Gateway" raises "profound questions about mankind's possible relationship with alien life," Syfy executive Bill McGoldrick said in a statement.

Pohl's 1977 award-winning novel about the alien Heechee race was fol-



This cover image released by Del Rey shows, "Gateway," by Frederik Pohl, which is being developed into a drama series by the Syfy channel. Associated Press

lowed by sequels and was the basis of a video game. The show's debut date and cast were not announced. □

Tourist Playground Meets Hectic Refugee Camp On Greek Island

NICHOLAS PAPHITIS

DALTON BENNETT

Associated Press

KOS, Greece (AP) — On this sunny Greek island accustomed to dealing with nothing more than a summer influx of tourists, authorities are struggling to handle a far different human tide: tens of thousands of migrants arriving in crammed rubber dinghies in hopes of making new lives in Europe.

Overwhelmed police clerks used fire extinguishers and batons on Tuesday to quell the crowds of weary and frustrated boat people fiercely jostling to be registered in Kos' main port, where thousands have been sleeping rough for days waiting for temporary travel documents.

The migrants, mostly refugees from war-torn Syria, make their way across the narrow strait that separates Kos from Turkey in their hundreds every day — desperate men, women and children risking the sometimes fatal crossing in flimsy boats in the hope of gaining asylum in northern Europe.

What they ask of Greece is one piece of paper, which will record their refugee status.

"We just want to leave this island, and they don't understand that," said Laith Saleh, a 30-year-old former plasterer from Aleppo,

who fled Syria last month after spending three years fighting Syrian government forces and Islamic State group extremists.

"We can't get on the boat to Athens if we don't have the papers."

Kos, like other Greek islands close to the Turkish seaboard, is ill-equipped to handle the wave of newcomers, its experience with troublesome visitors having previously been limited to drunken tourists. More than 125,000 people have entered this financially broken country by sea since January, a staggering 750 percent increase over the same period last year and more than in the whole of 2014 and 2013 together.

Police data show that nearly 30,000 people have been detained for illegally entering Kos and its smaller outlying islands so far this year — just short of its total population. According to local authorities, at least 5,000 are now trapped on the island due to the registration backlog.

Saleh said he spent nine hours on Monday waiting fruitlessly with several hundred others to be registered in an old football stadium that is now the island's main processing center. "There were four people doing the registration," he said. "Today there is just one."

Police have sent addition-



Migrants on a dinghy approach a beach after crossing from Turkey to the Greek southeastern island of Kos, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015. Dozens of boat people from the Middle East are flowing into the Greek holiday island of Kos from nearby Turkey, joining thousands of refugees camped under wretched conditions.

(AP Photo/Yorgos Karahalidis)

al staff to help the process — and were also flying in two riot police units to help control the crowds.

As tempers frayed Tuesday, hundreds of refugees and economic migrants briefly blocked the port's main coastal road, demanding quicker registration.

"We want papers! We want to leave!" they chanted.

Similar protests and tension have occurred on several of the islands bearing the brunt of the migrant influx in recent weeks, including Lesbos, where the majority of new arrivals land.

"We tell them that if they want to leave the island, we want it 10 times more,"

said Theodossis Paraschos, one of a group of local men gathered outside the old stadium advising the migrants to queue in a more orderly way.

"The problem (of migrant arrivals) has increased very, very fast. The solution must come from a central government level — and soon," Paraschos said. "People are starting to act mad. Earlier, a car driver out here tried to run the crowd over. Some people just have no brains."

The challenges for Kos' residents are evident.

Tourism is the island's key industry, and official data show a 7.3 decline in the first seven months of 2015, a toll local businesses blame on the migrant influx.

Lack of planning led to thousands of migrants, including many families, sleeping outdoors or in tents in public parks, along the town's beachfront or in the port's landmark medieval fort. Meanwhile, droves of tourists cycle past, while others fill restaurants and coffee shops.

"Seventy percent of our local economy is based on tourism — a five-and-a-half-month season," said Kos taxi driver Yiannis Kefalianos. "Tourists don't like the sight (of the camped migrants). They feel sorry for them, of course, but they shouldn't be out there in tents in the harbor or the

parks."

Kos Mayor Giorgos Kyritsis promised to evict the refugees from public areas, and municipal officials have been doing so since Monday. But there is nowhere the migrants can go while they wait for their papers, other than the sun-baked stadium.

Saleh said that while he was waiting in line at the stadium, his tent and belongings were confiscated by municipal workers. "Now I have no water, no food, I lost my phone. And everything is so expensive here."

Still, he hopes to eventually make his way through the Balkans to the Netherlands, where he said he would feel secure.

"Then I will get my papers and bring my family, my wife and 3-year-old son, who was just 28 days old when I started fighting. There were times when he couldn't remember me I had been away fighting for so long."

Saleh, who has shrapnel scars on his face and leg, was in action in Kobani and Aleppo, where 35 of his 40-strong unit were killed. He eventually entered Turkey and made his way to Bodrum, opposite Kos, from where he made the crossing in four hours, crammed in a rubber boat with dozens of other people. □



A migrant checks a mobile device after crossing with a dinghy from Turkey to the southeastern Greek island of Kos, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015.

(AP Photo/Yorgos Karahalidis)